

The Cavalier Daily

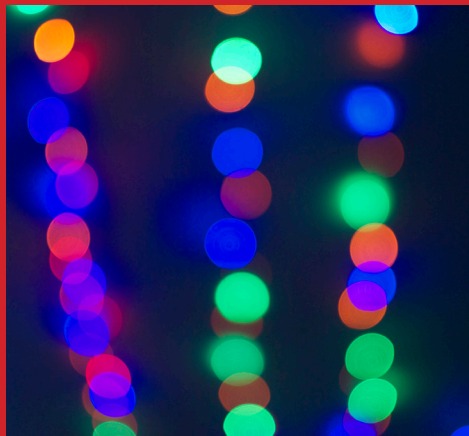
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Thursday, December 5, 2013

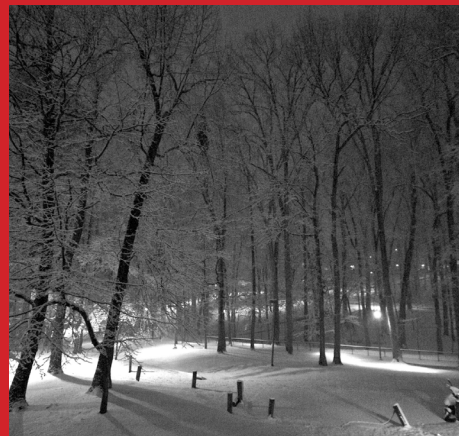
Vol. 124, Issue 29



Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily



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Mary Beth Desrosiers | The Cavalier Daily

Happy Holidays

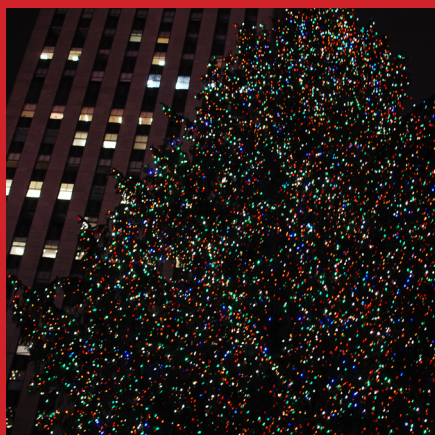
We'll be back in production January 13



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Courtesy Emily Seibert

Badgers outlast Cavaliers, 48-38

Michael Eilbacher
Senior Associate Editor

With two and a half minutes to go in Virginia's Wednesday night game against No. 8 Wisconsin, the Cavaliers picked up a rebound and brought the ball down the court looking to start something — anything, really. Senior guard Joe Harris went to the rim for a layup and missed. Senior forward Akil Mitchell corralled the offensive rebound and went up

for his own layup — it missed.

That seemed to be the story of the night for the Cavaliers. Shot after shot, the players found themselves looking at miss after miss, and nothing — inside shooting, outside shooting — seemed to be effective. Even in the midst of an impressive defensive performance, the abysmal shooting effort doomed Virginia (7-2) as they fell to the Badgers (9-0) 48-38.

"I thought we lost our composure a little bit," coach Tony Bennett said. "We had some opportunities to finish

and did not, but at times we kind of just put our head down and drove the pile, and it was too much. ... When it mattered [Wisconsin was] just sounder or more poised, and made the plays."

The stat line after the game told the tale. Virginia shot just 23.4 percent from the field — the fourth lowest tally in school history — and made just one field goal outside of the paint all game. There were two separate runs in the second half where the Cavaliers went nearly nine

minutes without making a basket — the team shot 15 percent for the half. It was a total team dysfunction — no individual player shot better than 50 percent in the game.

"It's rare that the team plays like this all together," sophomore guard Malcolm Brogdon said. "Usually at least one person is hitting shots. Tonight we just weren't clicking. We just need to be better."

The team's collapse was all the more worrying given its start. Virginia look good on offense early, jump-

ing out to a 13-11 lead in the first seven minutes of the game. Freshman guard London Perrantes made the shot to put the Cavaliers ahead, and the team was shooting 6-for-10 at that point. Over the course of the rest of the game, the team would shoot 5-for-37.

"We look at the quality of shots, and talked about trying to go inside," Bennett said. "We were fairly patient.

see M BBALL, page 11



Kelly Kaler & Priya Bharjwal
Senior Writers

Not much fuss was made in the lead up to Aug. 3, 2013, when members of the Board of Visitors voted to make changes to AccessUVA, the University's financial aid program. Strategic cuts — the elimination of all-grant offerings — were made in an effort to save around \$6 million from the University's annual budget. As word of the changes spread, and once students and faculty returned to Grounds in the fall, opposition to the changes arose.

Hajar Ahmed, a fourth-year College student from Reston, Va., receives full-grant aid from AccessUVA. Although she will be grandfathered in to receive full aid for the rest of her time at the University, Ahmed has made it a personal mission to campaign for the restoration of all-grant aid, so that future students may continue

to benefit from the program.

"I would not be at the University if it were not for AccessUVA," Ahmed said. "It has seriously changed my life."

The eldest of three siblings, one of whom is also enrolled at an in-state university, Ahmed said financial aid considerations were not at the forefront of her college application process. Her decision, however, ultimately depended on the availability of funds to offset the cost of a degree.

"My mindset was to apply to as many places as I could, and work out the money situation later ... even though I knew there was a possibility I would have to turn down a lot of [acceptance] offers," she said. "AccessUVA was able to meet 100 percent of my need, and that was the deal-breaker to me over other schools."

Once enrolled, Ahmed said there were times where she felt her full-ride, though enabling her to attend the University, also stigma-

tized her.

"[Now] I feel like I'm as integrated as everyone else [at the University] ... [but] I almost transferred my first year due to this environment — the stereotypes [are] why I had such a hard time coming out as a recipient of AccessUVA," she said. "[People think] you're lazy, entitled ... that's what I wanted to hide."

Stephanie Montenegro, a fourth-year College student, is also a full grant recipient of AccessUVA aid.

"I would receive money for the semester two weeks after classes started," Montenegro said. "I would be terrified for those two weeks at the beginning of each semester because there was a chance I would not have enough money to cover my first month's rent."

Despite facing her own challenges, Montenegro said other students receiving financial aid face even more difficult situations.

"Another recipient of AccessUVA aid gives half of the appropriated money to his family to support them financially," she said.

"He budgets the other half of the

see ACCESSUVA, page 4



Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily

Montenegro and Ahmed (left, right) are both all-grant aid recipients who work part-time in addition to their obligations from school and other extracurricular activities to cover costs.

Student groups, local organizations help Charlottesville homeless

Winter weather drastically increases demand for food, shelter, compounds need for volunteers, additional funding during holiday season



Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily

The Haven, a church which doubles as a day shelter, operates on an "open door" policy, meaning those who seek shelter are not screened or breathalyzed upon arrival.

Sara Rourke
Associate Editor

As winter weather quickly approaches freezing temperatures, Charlottesville has seen increased demand for housing, clothing, food and other necessities among the city's homeless and impoverished community members. Local homeless shelters and humanitarian organizations have teamed up to fulfill the city's needs.

Stephen Hitchcock, program director of the Haven, a church which doubles as a day shelter for homeless individuals, said they see the heaviest traffic from the end of October through the beginning of April.

The Haven offers storage space, showers, laundry, breakfast, computer and phone access to those in need. It is also a "low barrier" shelter, meaning the organization does not screen or breathalyze clients before providing aid.

"Even someone who's in the throes of addiction could come in and be assessed and referred for what they need," Hitchcock said.

Hitchcock attributed much of the center's success to collaboration with other local organizations which serve a similar purpose.

"Federal and state funding, as well as city funding, is increasingly predi-

cated upon collaboration," he said. "It's also a way for us to perform our jobs better. It's a healthier environment."

Regardless of which shelter an individual may choose, they will be referred to a place best suited to their needs.

Though Hitchcock said he was unaware of any current homeless University students, he acknowledged the increased need of many young adults in general during the holiday season.

"The fastest growing subpopulation [of the homeless] nationwide is [18- to 25-year-old] youth aging out of foster care, which is the student population," Hitchcock said. "Once someone leaves foster care, there isn't necessarily a support system for them."

Nicole Freeman, a fourth-year Commerce student and co-coordinator for Campus Kitchen, praised efforts made by fellow volunteers to assist the homeless population as the year comes to a close.

"Campus Kitchen is essentially a student-powered community hunger relief [effort]," Freeman said in an email. "Our weekly operations deliver meals to Salvation Army and Hope House to help bring nutritious meals to those in need in the Charlottesville community."

This year, in honor of Thanks-

giving, Campus Kitchen hosted a national event called Turkeypalooza. Charlottesville's event provided meals to 35 local families in need, as well as side dishes to On Our Own, a local non-profit organization dedicated to helping those with mental illnesses.

The group also collected \$368.24 through a bake sale, coin drive with ISC sororities and donations from family and friends of the organization.

An unidentified student group has also placed a box and notice beneath the bridge at the intersection of University Avenue and 14th street, an area where the Charlottesville homeless population tends to frequent.

"Hunger is a problem that continually plagues the Charlottesville community," the notice said. "As the weather draws colder, the hunger pangs grow stronger. Images of holiday feasts flood our society, but not everyone gets to eat at those tables."

It continued, "For this next week we will be offering food for those who need it. Students from U.Va. will be dropping off food throughout the day from Monday, Dec. 2 to Friday, Dec. 6 at the table provided here. Feel free to take food if you are hungry or to leave meals if you have the means."

The notice was signed "Ex tenebbris lux," which translates "out of darkness, light."

Heat, lights to remain on during Winter Break

Humidity-sensitive research requires temperature control

Kathleen Smith
Associate Editor

Even after the last suitcase leaves first-year dormitories and the last meal is served out of Runk, due to University policy, many University facilities will remain turned on for the duration of Winter Break.

Most buildings in the Darden Complex, the Drama Education Building and the Outdoor Field Complex facilities at North Grounds are scheduled for “reduced heat,” where temperature control systems will be set for 62 degrees. But the majority of buildings on Grounds, including library stacks and research areas where humidity and climate control are crucial, will require normal heat settings.

The cost of keeping facilities running during the break is difficult to calculate, said Nina Morris, the sustainability outreach coordinator for Facilities Management, because each building is used differently.

“Facilities Management has set energy conservation and efficiency as a main goal and works consistently to provide quality service as efficiently and effectively as possible,” she said.

In order to reduce energy consumption, Morris has encouraged faculty and staff to turn off computers, lights and electronics and set individual office temperatures to 62 degrees.

During the 2012-13 academic year, almost 90 percent of the University’s greenhouse gas emissions were due to electricity and fossil fuels, which are used for lighting, ventilation, heating/air conditioning, and other related functions, according to the office for sustainability. The office is currently developing a “green checklist” for students to reference before leaving on break that will be posted on the University’s website.

Future of Honor faces serious challenges

Committee seeks increased minority, athlete involvement, heavier participation from student body with outreach efforts

Joe Liss
Senior Associate Editor

This article is the last of a three-part series. The first article addressed the honor system’s past and the second addressed present issues the Committee faces. This article discusses potential solutions to long-term problems the Committee faces.

The Honor Committee in its past three sessions has put heavy consideration into creating a formalized system for promoting a dialogue among “regular” students about the honor system. These students will provide a fresh perspective on what have previously been called discriminatory Honor tendencies, as the Committee continues to face a disproportionate reporting of honor offenses in the athletic, international and minority communities.

When the Committee has attempted to fix its flaws in the past — most notably in the Restore the Ideal Act last spring which sought to implement all-Committee member juries as well as implement the informed retraction policy which failed a student referendum — it has failed to engage students with the reforms, said fourth-year College student Michelle Butler, the vice chair for investigations. Honor intends to increase student involvement in

future reform efforts in an effort to bridge the gap between the committee and the students.

Disproportionate Perceptions

Fourth-year College student Haya Yaish, chair of the Minority Rights Coalition, said minority students perceive they are being disproportionately targeted by the Committee — though it is impossible to say definitively whether there is disproportionate reporting of minority students.

“Spotlighting minority students and athletes has long been a complaint at [the University] that is only recently being acknowledged and dealt with,” Yaish said in an email.

But whereas the relationship has been strained between the Committee and minority groups in the past, Yaish said, outreach efforts have improved this year.

Fourth-year College student Conor O’Boyle, vice chair for trials, said the Committee is working to build stronger relationships with minority student groups.

“We have come into our role and gained in our role relationships with a lot of different minority groups,” O’Boyle said. “[The Committee is] working on recruitment and making sure we have a diverse group of support officers.”

Fourth-year Education student Andi Chernau, vice chair for inves-

tigations, said the diversity of this year’s support officer pool was closer to the University’s overall proportion of minority students than in years past. “One of the things we did this year is we mass-advertised our recruitment, so we got a lot more diversity in terms of that,” Chernau said.

Honor Committee Vice Chair Brittany Wengel, former athlete and

fourth-year College student, has launched a major initiative this year called Student Athletes Committed to Honor to discuss disproportionate reporting with student athletes. Fourth-year College student Brandy Herald, a member of the crew team and of SACH, said athletes face issues of high visibility, since they either have some name recognition or tend to sit together in class and wear team apparel. Herald also said

some faculty members had preconceived notions that students athletes cheat more, and SACH allowed her to hear from faculty about why the perception exists.

“[Athletes are not] trying to cheat the system [or] trying to get benefits, but [are] trying to have an open dialogue,” Herald said. “I don’t think athletes cheat as much as [the reporting rate suggests].”

International students face particular challenges adapting to American plagiarism rules and citation standards, Chernau said.

“One of the things that I very strongly believed in last year when I was running for Committee ... was increasing education to international students,” Chernau said. “A lot of times students just have no idea.”

The Committee has made outreach a major theme of its term, and Yaish and the others said their efforts have begun to pay dividends.

Faculty, Relationships and Confidentiality

These outreach efforts, Chernau and Wengel said, have even extended to faculty.

“We are having some kind of module ... that will help professors locate where their biases are,” Butler said. “We can say that we want to

“**Spotlighting minority students and athletes has long been a complaint at [U.Va.] that is only recently being acknowledged and dealt with.**”

see HONOR, page 4

DECEMBER EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 7-10 p.m. Lighting of the Lawn	6 8 p.m. Hullabahoos concert	7 8 p.m. Virginia Women’s chorus @ Chapel
8 2 p.m. A Christmas Carol @ Paramount	9	10	11	12	13 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Holiday Craftacular @ CitySpace	14 *Holiday Evening tours @ Monticello
15 2:30 p.m. A Christmas Carol @ Four County Players	16	17 LAST DAY OF EXAMS!	18	19	20 7 p.m. Public Night @ McCormick Observatory	21
22 7 p.m. Love Actually @ Paramount	23	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26 Kwanzaa begins!	27	28
29	30	31	*Also occurring on Dec. 20-23, 26-30			

ACCESSUVA | Full-grant aid carries stigma at University, Ahmed says

Continued from page 2

money for the entire semester and has two other jobs to make up for the half given to his family. Most college students do not have to worry about these types of money issues, but when you do it affects your life. If you are involved in an organization that has a social event on a weekend, the cost of attending that event might mean not having enough money for next week's meals or next month's rent."

Full-grant aid provides a standard amount of funding to all students at the beginning of the academic year, intended to cover room, board and tuition for the

entire year. For first-years, this includes on-Grounds housing and a standard University dining hall plan. Students also receive a refund check in addition to this standard amount, intended to cover books, transportation and other basic needs.

If a student decides to go off of the meal plan, or move to an off-Grounds housing location, the cost of University dining and housing plans is subtracted from the initial amount and added onto the student's refund check, to be used toward other forms of food and housing.

But even these funds are not always enough, Ahmed said. In addition to a full class schedule and heavy extracurricular involve-

ment, she works a part-time job to provide financial security.

"That aid was enough to support me," she said. "But what if an emergency happens or [I] get sick? Those things ran through my mind all the time ... you never know what will happen tomorrow."

Ahmed also helps support her family at home with the income from her job on Grounds.

"I've had a job since I was 14," she said. "I worked senior year to help my mom with expenses ... she makes barely enough for paycheck to paycheck ... and when I went to college I could see how missing that money was hurting her. So second year I got a job again to send money to her and my siblings."

Under the restructured AccessUVA program, in-state students in the lowest income bracket will be asked to take out roughly \$14,000 in federally subsidized loans in the course of their four years at the University, and out-of-state students would have to take out \$28,000.

If something is not done to reverse the AccessUVA cuts, Ahmed said, she fears the cultural and socioeconomic makeup of the University will be negatively affected.

"This is not an issue of money, it's priorities," she said. "We're talking priority, and the administration is not making all of the students here a top priority."

In addition to the adverse affects on the diversity of the student

body, Montenegro said she is also concerned the changes will ultimately worsen the college experience for students who would otherwise be receiving all-grant aid.

"Administrators told me that we all graduate with the same degree and equal chances of success, but that is not entirely true," she said. "Realistically, a lot of students get money from their families to go abroad or take a year off and find a job. Now with these changes to the program, students receiving grant aid will not have the ability to do those things. Instead, they will be forced to take any job they can get after college in order to repay their loans. Graduating from any university, even U.Va., does not guarantee you success."

Save a tree



Recycle
this
newspaper

HONOR | Committee to host convention for student input

Continued from page 2

require it, but we have to talk to administration."

Committee members, including Chair Evan Behrle, a fourth-year College student, have tried to confront the issue of faculty dissatisfaction with the honor system which had led to a decline in the number of honor offenses being reported in recent years.

Butler said faculty who go through the honor system do not appreciate the length of hearings required to meet state and federal legal standards for due process.

"[Faculty] go through this long process that doesn't really have a clear benefit for them," Butler said.

Butler said other faculty simply do not support the single sanction, and thus do not report students to the Committee on principle.

"I think we have a particular problem with faculty that come to U.Va. and don't really buy into the system," Butler said. "I think the [Informed Retraction] is definitely helping with [providing more leniency]."

Chernau said outreach efforts focus on explaining the honor system and trial process to faculty.

Butler said she has already heard positive feedback from some faculty members, especially new faculty, who appreciate the personal outreach.

"In the end, it's all about buy-in," Butler said.

Hung Juries, Internal Reforms

O'Boyle has continued to focus on inconsistent jury verdicts during Committee meetings this semester and maintains jury reform is the only conceivable major constitutional change the honor system would undergo this term. Currently,

accused students have the constitutional right to select a random student jury, a jury of Honor Committee members or a mixture of the two.

A commission review of the Honor Committee in 2000 recommended moving toward only mixed juries. Chernau said the Committee has seen very few mixed juries, so it is unclear whether such a move would resolve inconsistent verdicts. However, she reported positive feedback from the few mixed jury cases that have occurred.

Mixed juries allow experienced Committee members who understand the bylaws to guide discussion during a trial. All-student juries vary widely in their application of facts in a case and many Committee members worry students do not fully understand their rules.

Despite the apparent practicality of mixed juries, requiring them could only be achieved through another student referendum — like that rejected by the student body in the spring.

Third-year College student Forrest Brown, a founding member of the Students' Honor Caucus, said he thought students might find a proposal for mixed juries more palatable than an all-Committee member jury because it would offer the student body a check on honor trials.

"I think the student body correctly wanted there to be an outside student-body presence," Brown said. "If members of the Committee were more often from outside the system itself, it might be different"

O'Boyle expanded training for random student jurors to a full hour, rather than the 20-30 minutes of training previously required, but still says a more significant change needs to take place.

Butler said jurors could benefit from more mock cases, so they

could better learn how to apply evidence to Committee standards, but she worried jurors, who already arrive at 9 a.m. and stay until late evening, would not be willing or able to sit for additional training. No amount of training, however, could get around students who cannot bring themselves to expel another student, even if they know the other student to be guilty, Butler said.

Brown also recommended an opt-in system for all-student juries, where students could choose to be in the jury pool. Those students would come for additional training at the beginning of the year and would likely see more cases, given the smaller pool.

"The people would be committed and probably smart," Brown said of an opt-in system. "You would be much more likely to have an experienced juror."

Convening a Convention

Butler emphasized that the Committee's goals of increased student involvement is not a ploy to recruit student support from only those who will promote Honor's future vision. Dissenting opinions are encouraged as well.

"There are times where [Committee members are] thinking over an issue and we come up blank," Butler said. "This is a huge student community. There's got to be an idea [somewhere]."

Even following the failure of the Restore the Ideal Act, Butler said, Committee members were more interested in gathering student input than upset the referendum failed.

"[We have] an earnest desire to hear from students," Butler said.

The Committee has been planning a convention to try and bring a diverse group of students together to discuss flaws in the honor system and proposals to fix those issues. Butler said the Committee has con-

templated being up-front about its low reporting rate as it advertises for the event, hoping to draw in students who understand the Committee hears their concerns.

"Honor works, but it doesn't work as well as it could, and we're frustrated about that and we want to do something about that," Behrle said during a Committee meeting last month.

Chernau, however, said a 2012 survey of University students showed many had a positive opinion of the honor system. 60 percent of students said they had not witnessed an honor offense during their time on Grounds, and 22 percent were unsure if they had or not.

"When you take a step back and look at how the system is benefiting the students ... it's pretty damn positive," Chernau said. "A lot of people do think positively about the honor system and how it benefits them as a student."

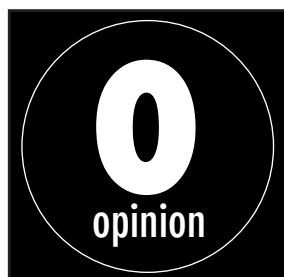
Butler said she wanted to be cautious about not alienating those students for whom the honor system is currently working. A Committee too up front about the system's flaws may chip away at support from those who do not have qualms with the current system.

Students, O'Boyle said, need to feel the day-to-day impact of the honor system on their lives as students for the community of trust to be effective.

"Making sure every student knows here that Honor cares about integrity as a whole" should be part of the Honor Committee's goal, O'Boyle said, including creating a "culture of trust."

The Honor Committee will likely have its convention as an open event for all students sometime late next semester.

An extended version of this story can be read online at www.cavalier-daily.com



Comment of the day

“All students should be treated equally. Period. We have heard all of the claims for equal opportunity. Students can still get loans and, assuming they pick a major which enables them to get a decent job, they can pay back the loans like any other students. Getting a free college education is not an entitlement for anyone. Actually college is not an entitlement either for that matter.”

“Brad L” responding to Kelly Kaler and Priya Bhardwaj’s Dec. 3 article, “AccessUVa changes risk leaving low-income students in the dust.”

Have an opinion? Write it down.

Join the Opinion section.

Or send a guest editorial to opinion@cavalierdaily.com

LEAD EDITORIAL

Raising our standards

SAT writing scores should not exempt students from the first writing requirement

Writing requirements seem like a topic for dead-eyed academic bureaucrats: a subject undeserving of attention, let alone debate. But what a school asks of its students tells us a great deal about that institution’s values and goals.

So Assoc. English Prof. James Seitz, who has questioned in a University press release whether the SAT writing exam provides an adequate proxy for the first writing requirement, has stirred up a conversation worth having.

Writing is foundational to liberal arts education at the University. All College students must fulfill three competency requirements, two of which have to do with writing. The first writing requirement introduces students to academic argument at the college level. The second writing requirement asks students to produce 20 pages in a semester in a small class (fewer than 30 students per professor). The third competency requirement asks students to demonstrate some proficiency in a foreign language.

Currently, incoming students can place out of the first writing requirement if they earn a score of 720 or higher on the writing section of the SAT. Seitz is right to question the validity of SAT-based exemptions from the first writing requirement. The SAT’s shortcomings — particularly when it comes to the writing portion

— are well-known. Until we can say with confidence that the SAT’s essays gauge student writing effectively, SAT scores should not exempt students from the first writing requirement.

The biggest problem with the SAT writing section in its current form is that for the purposes of the essay, facts aren’t taken into account for scoring. One strategy for test-takers is to ignore facts altogether. To get a high score on the essay, students must provide examples. Fabricating examples is easier than digging them out of the recesses of your mind.

Students have 25 minutes to write their five-paragraph piece. By suspending accuracy, students can scribble faster.

Ignoring facts can be convenient. But such tactics won’t fly in the academic world (the realm of politics is another matter). A test that tacitly encourages students to neglect accuracy for the sake of streamlined argument is hardly cultivating the writing habits upon which liberal arts education is based.

The SAT’s breakneck pace is another reason why the test is a poor measure of writing ability. Good writing takes time and revision. It also requires thoughtfulness. A 25-minute impromptu essay might measure something — obedience to a five-paragraph essay template, the basic ability to construct a sentence — but it doesn’t measure writing pro-

ficiency in any meaningful way. Even the most gifted high school student would be hard-pressed to write with vividness and polish when devoting five minutes, tops, to each paragraph. And 25 minutes is not enough time to generate a thoughtful or original argument.

Sometimes final exams ask students to write hurried essays. This practice differs from what the SAT requires. Essays on timed exams in college measure, first and foremost, the student’s ability to synthesize the material he has learned in the class. Writing well helps, but the point of these essays is to give the student a chance to demonstrate what he has learned. The SAT, in contrast, purports to assess writing ability by asking students to discuss topics of which they may have no previous knowledge.

Finally, the SAT essay is too formulaic. The five-paragraph model can help high school students learn to make academic arguments. But once a student attains a degree of writing proficiency, the five-paragraph template is a hindrance, not a guide. Students who intend to write at the college level need to move beyond the five-paragraph essay. The first writing requirement guides students past formulaic essay constructions. The SAT encourages generic writing.

David Coleman, the president of the College Board, which admin-

isters the SAT, announced Tuesday that a revamped SAT would arrive in 2016 (a year later than expected). Speaking at an education conference in September, Coleman hinted that the essay portion of the test would undergo big changes.

The College Board first included the writing portion in 2005, swelling the SAT scoring system from a maximum of 1600 to 2400 points in the process. As a new addition to the test, the writing section is a prime candidate for retooling. We hope that the College Board will improve the writing portion of the SAT by, for example, having test-takers analyze a provided text, which they would then refer to as evidence for their arguments.

But until the SAT writing section offers an adequate evaluation of writing ability, SAT scores should not exempt students from the University’s first writing requirement. And a satisfactory SAT may never materialize. Writing is a complex skill — difficult to measure through a standardized test.

Other ways of earning exemption from the first writing requirement — submitting a portfolio, coming in as an Echols scholar, and scoring a 5 on the AP English Language exam — can remain in place for now, although the AP exemption runs into some of the same problems as the SAT-based exemption.

THE CAVALIER DAILY

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Questions/Comments

To better serve readers, The Cavalier Daily has a public editor to respond to questions and concerns regarding its practices. The public editor writes a column published every week on the opinion pages based on reader feedback and his independent observations. He also welcomes queries pertaining to journalism and the newspaper industry in general. The public editor is available at publiceditor@cavalierdaily.com.

A gift from above

Amazon's use of drones to deliver goods is more than a publicity stunt

Alex Yohanda
Senior Associate Editor

Drones evoke images of armed, remote-controlled aircrafts — a military and surveillance technology that has drawn great controversy in recent years. Drones seem to be the future of warfare. Yet soon drones may be seen performing more peaceful actions. This time, instead of augmenting America's military, drones will be used to enhance its consumerism by serving as automated delivery men.

Online retail giant Amazon on Sunday announced its newest major initiative: Amazon Prime Air. This program is scheduled to begin in 2015, and will feature delivery of Amazon products by drones. Amazon claims that a customer can order a product that weighs under five pounds — which Amazon says constitutes 86 percent of purchases — and have it delivered to his doorstep in less than 30 minutes.

I admit that when I first saw articles and Amazon's YouTube

video about this project, I was not immediately convinced that it was as revolutionary a maneuver as Amazon is promoting. Are we as a culture so obsessed with rapid consumption, I thought, that we will widely pay for drones to deliver items so soon after we order them? After all, Amazon does not

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"Who wouldn't want to order a pair of socks online at three o'clock in class and be able to wear them in his intramural basketball game at four?"

offer products that necessitate such swift distribution — at least not now. Who knows: maybe in the future doctors will be able to purchase organs off Amazon and have them airlifted to needy donors within half an hour. After all, drones have already found a niche delivering rescue supplies to those who cannot be quickly

reached by rescue teams. Despite Amazon Prime Air's potential, it's just a gimmicky way to fuel some shoppers' desires for instant gratification.

After reading about the program some more, though, I realized that I like the idea of drone delivery. Drones promote efficiency when it comes to delivering goods. From a convenience standpoint, there are always improvements to be made to ensure that products arrive more quickly. I take advantage of Amazon Prime

— Amazon's free two-day shipping service — whenever I can. Amazon Prime Air is even faster, so it makes sense that consumers would choose that option. Who wouldn't want to order a pair of socks online at three o'clock in class and be able to wear them in his intramural basketball game at four? Amazon has continued

to prove its commitment toward more streamlined consumption through initiatives such as the Kindle and Amazon Instant Video. Perhaps Amazon Prime Air is not just a publicity stunt, but a realistic step toward further improving the efficiency by which Amazon delivers its goods.

That being said, Amazon still has to work out the details of its plan with the FAA in order to fully implement drone delivery. And while it will be interesting to see how this new delivery method will change both Amazon's business and the way that people shop, its overall impact is yet to be seen. From a logistical standpoint, drone delivery will likely be confined to smaller purchases. Even though Amazon sells mainly small items, this is nonetheless a setback. Larger items would necessitate bigger delivery drones, which would be much harder to navigate than small ones. Plus, drones above a certain size probably won't be allowed to clog up free airspace. So consumers will only be able to receive certain items via drone. Amazon, then, won't dominate

all shipping, and more traditional stores will not have to close because they cannot meet consumers' needs quickly enough. On the upside, drone delivery has great potential, and other companies are sure to copy Amazon's strategy by providing more efficient service. Some firms are already thinking along the same lines: Domino's Pizza released a video earlier this year in which the company highlighted drones capable of delivering pizzas.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos imagines a future in which swarms of delivery drones bringing products to people everywhere are a common — albeit unsightly — phenomenon. I, and surely many other shoppers, love the idea of increased convenience offered by drone delivery. Even if the service does not have the impact that Amazon is envisioning, it will certainly serve as more than just an advertising scheme.

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Not all in your head

Mental illness should be taken seriously

Ashley Spinks
Opinion Columnist

I have been pleased and impressed with the Cavalier Daily this semester as they have made significant efforts to comprehensively, honestly and knowledgeably address the topic of mental illness. My fellow columnist George Knaysi wrote a wonderful four-part series addressing various aspects of mental health and the managing board encouraged students struggling with depression and anxiety to seek help despite the stigma with their column "Don't Suffer in Silence". The University's administration is also working to be more sensitive to the reality that many students are incredibly stressed and suffer from problems with mental illness on a regular basis. Recently, Dean Groves sent an email full of advice and resources that could help students cope with stress and anxiety, and he closed the e-mail by reminding us that, "Your value as a person lies in much more than a grade on a test or a paper." I have noticed and appreciated all of these efforts, but I feel like the mental health discussion has been missing a critical component: a human face. I think this conversation is vitally impor-

tant and relevant especially to college students—the work to destigmatize mental illness is essential work. But sometimes a third party who is completely removed from the problem telling you that "It gets better" just does not seem like enough.

I vacillated about whether or not to write this column for weeks, because I was afraid of the way it would be received. Would it look like I was desperate for attention, trying to shock people, searching for pity? Although none of those are my intention, maybe it will come off that way, anyway. Ultimately, though, I decided it was important that I say something, because if I didn't, there was a chance that no one would. That was not a possibility that I was comfortable allowing to exist. So I'm here to tell whoever is reading that the issue of mental health is deeply and personally important to me because I have dealt with depression and anxiety myself, and I still do. I'm here to say that I know depression is more than "being sad" and anxiety is more than "feeling nervous", and sometimes, however well-intentioned it may be, advice to "talk to someone" or "just get help" is largely insufficient. I decided to be honest about my struggle because I want everyone to see that it's okay

to admit your problems—the only way to destigmatize mental illness is one person at a time.

Some people suffer from situational mental health issues—they will be particularly stressed around midterms or finals, depressed because of an actual saddening event that happened in their lives, or anxious because of a test or bad grade. But I know that sometimes, depression is attached to absolutely nothing. I know that sometimes, when people suggest that you "just call CAPS or HELP-line" it borders on feeling condescending or patronizing, because making a phone call is not a simple task. Depression is suffocating. It is frustrating to harbor so much sadness with no tangible cause. It is impossible to explain to people, and that can make you feel crazy. Oftentimes, it literally hurts to be depressed. I know how depression can make it a struggle just to get out of bed in the morning, because your body aches. Beating depression becomes about very small victories—sometimes just going to class, just writing one more page of a paper, just doing your laundry is the bravest and hugest accomplishment you'll have in a day. Anxiety offers much of the same—physical symptoms like a racing heart, nausea, shakiness, and an inability to concen-

trate without any reason. Sometimes you wake up to an anxiety attack before class. Sometimes you get one in the middle of an important meeting. You know you have to get through it—but that doesn't mean you can just get over it.

It is intimidating to get help. Although we all know that logically, the employees at CAPS and Student Health are there to be supportive, and certainly have our best interests as their first priority, there is a lingering fear that our reaching out will be futile. Society has stigmatized mental health and taken away its legitimacy as a serious and valid health concern. People who claim to be "depressed" are often written off as being weak or dramatic. You are terrified of hearing any of those accusations after you've fought such a difficult battle—you don't want it to be belittled or dismissed.

Please know that I understand and empathize with all of these feelings. I still believe it is the best course of action to get help if you can, to speak out and ask for people to listen, to build a support network for yourself. But if you can't do those things, for whatever reason, I've decided to leave you with some strategies that have worked for me in the past. When you're feeling overwhelmed by any

struggle, try deep breathing. Focus entirely on the in-and-out pattern—fill your lungs completely. Distract yourself from whatever is stressing you out, or from the manifest symptoms of that stress, with breathing. Drinking a glass of ice water slowly sometimes works, too. If you're feeling particularly down or having a panic attack—let yourself take the time to recover from it. Trying to work through it is not only going to be unproductive, it is likely to exacerbate the problem. Watch a TV show and immerse yourself in the plotline. Read a book for pleasure. Fix a snack. Another great remedy for anxiety is cuddling. If you're shaking, squeeze yourself tightly. Wrap yourself up in blankets. Try to calm your body down. If you feel panicked or powerless, make yourself a to-do list. Write down important things. Know that you can and will get it all finished. And always: Remind yourself that this will end. You are not crazy and you are not alone. Some days are going to be really hard and that's okay. You do not need to feel guilty for struggling. You will get through this.

Ashley Spinks is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. Her columns run Mondays.

Against ‘pre-Comm’

Pre-professional students should not forget the benefits of a well-rounded education

John Connolly
Opinion Columnist

Through my involvement with the First Year Judiciary Committee, I run into many first-year students who are dead set on being lawyers. There is nothing ostensibly wrong with that. As a lawyer, you have the opportunity to do fulfilling work and make a comfortable living.

But why, as a first year, would you consign yourself to one profession instead of exploring the countless opportunities the University offers for both personal and professional development? I would argue that even if you have an idea of a potential future career, you should go through college with an open mind, and pursue anything that interests you. Only then will you be able to make the most of the college experience.

This phenomenon of being “pre-something” — pre-law, pre-Commerce, premed — is, to my knowledge, a relatively new phe-

nomenon. College used to be a place of learning and exploration for all. Now, it seems that the students who seek out a well-rounded education for its own sake form a minority. The heyday of the core curriculum — founded on the principle that every student should exit college well-read and culturally literate, with knowledge of the literature, history, art, philosophy and science that form the basis for human experience — has long since passed. The few colleges that still require students to take a “core” set of classes — Columbia and the University of Chicago come to mind — are often seen as overbearing or backward. Students today who consign themselves to one particular pre-professional track (there are obviously exceptions) see college as a sort of finishing school. College is a place to learn a trade, a place to acquire a specific skill set that will allow you to acquire and succeed at a job.

This belief diminishes the purpose of any university, especially the University of Virginia. Stu-

dents who enter the University as “pre-Comm” and refuse to expand their intellectual horizons beyond the realm of accounting and business would do well to remember that this school was founded on the idea that learning is not a means to an end, but an end in itself. The purpose of an education is not merely to prepare you for a job. Rather, the purpose is to prepare you for your life, to allow you to read the great texts — the Shakespeares, the Platos, the Aristotles of the world. The purpose is to force you to develop opinions on the great issues of mankind. Where do we come from? Why are we here? It might be easier to come up with answers to your marketing homework set, but I would argue that in the long run, it is much more fulfilling to ex-

plore the fundamental questions that define our existence. I believe that everyone, not just those who actively seek out the liberal arts,



But why, as a first year, would you consign yourself to one profession instead of exploring the countless opportunities the University offers for both personal and professional development?

should consider these questions and these issues.

It is important to remember that you have the rest of your life to find a job, the rest of your life to work for a company, but that you are only in college once (YOCO?). It would be a shame if a single student wasted the opportunities the University offers. I often hear “pre-Comm” students argue that the Commerce School gives you the tools to learn how to do a job.

That may be true. And it is certainly true that the Commerce School has graduated thousands of fantastic young men and women who seek to make a positive impact on this planet. But I worry that these practical skills are skills you can attain in the workplace, or even in graduate school, and that students prioritize the acquisition of “hard” skills over the acquisition of knowledge itself.

You can learn how to be a lawyer in law school, a businessman in business school and a doctor in medical school. It is important to take the prerequisite classes if you’re interested in any of these schools, but it is also vital that students take advantage of the opportunities inherent in being an undergraduate student. Freedom of academic exploration is a singular opportunity in the lifetimes of most people. It would be a shame to throw that away.

John Connolly is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. His columns run Thursdays.

Writing a new curriculum

Standardized tests are a poor gauge of true writing ability and should not be used to exempt students from writing courses

Forrest Brown
Opinion Columnist

James Seitz, the director of the University’s writing program, recently asked for a re-evaluation of the current writing requirements for students in the College. Seitz questioned the usefulness of standardized test scores in determining exemptions from the first writing requirement, and announced a review over the next year of students’ writing abilities. While such a review may yield useful knowledge of the effectiveness of the University’s writing classes, Seitz should be able to see from their structure that standardized tests are poor evidence of writing ability.

High scores on several different tests are currently accepted as a replacement for the first writing requirement. The first is a score of 720 or higher on the SAT. It’s challenging to attain such a score, but the SAT is probably the least valuable writing test out there. Students are asked to write a short essay in about half an hour and answer some multiple-choice questions. Multiple choice obviously does not measure any kind of practical writing proficiency, although it may gauge a student’s knowl-

edge of grammar. And because so many people take the test, it is impossible for the essay to be analyzed for anything beyond the appearance of competence. Use of sources, accuracy of claims and detailed analysis of opposing arguments are all skills that cannot be evaluated on a large scale, although they are crucial to college-level writing. For example, a friend of mine received a score of 11/12 on her essay in



“Even if these tests were precise measures of writing ability — they probably do have some general predictive value — compelling more students to take the first writing requirement would still be an excellent idea.”

high school by inventing quotes from a fictional American philosopher. And more importantly, sophisticated writing does not occur in half an hour. It takes serious commitment to revision and reflection, which cannot occur in the SAT format.

The other standardized test

score that grants an exemption is a 5 on an AP Language exam. This is certainly a superior measure of writing ability to the SAT, but is still dramatically insufficient. Students are again asked to answer some multiple-choice questions of limited utility, and are given a significantly longer period of time to write several essays. The test allows students to write a more diligently crafted essay and display more of their skills, and the format and prompts for these essays make it impossible for fabricated evidence to survive the grading process. But just like the SAT, there is simply not enough time for graders to thoughtfully evaluate

proficiency. A teacher at my high school was an AP English grader for the College Board, and described the process as follows. Hundreds of graders gather and are given piles of essays. Each essay is read twice for three to five minutes and given a score from one to nine. The average of the

two scores is used for each essay, and then combined with the multiple-choice results to produce a final exam score. Analyzing an essay for a total of 10 minutes is not sufficient to measure any of the college writing skills mentioned above. And while preparation for the exam often gives students some skill in organizing and quickly creating an argument, it does not provide the opportunity for students to learn to revise their work effectively and maximize the effectiveness and clarity of their arguments. The AP exam assesses a very particular kind of writing adequately, but fails to acquit students with the breadth of ability needed to excel on the college level.

Even if these tests were precise measures of writing ability — they probably do have some general predictive value — compelling more students to take the first writing requirement would still be an excellent idea. The requirement could be changed slightly to accommodate a wider variety of interests and skill levels. Maybe some mid-level courses in various departments that assign significant written work could fulfill the requirement as well, allowing talented and motivated students to push themselves a little more. But even for

those who want to do the minimum or dislike written work, writing is an important skill in any professional field after college, and ensuring that every single student begins his or her University career with basic writing proficiency can only boost the job prospects of graduates. High-level classes demand the ability to write efficient, convincing and usually lengthy pieces of writing, whether it be exploring the implications of new research data or producing literary criticism. Most students come into college without the skills necessary to succeed in high-level writing courses, and ensuring that everyone — even a person with natural ability — is instructed properly should be a priority.

The review of students’ writing capabilities will hopefully result in a productive conversation about the importance of writing to the University. But regardless of the results, the administration should ensure students receive the basic skills to succeed at a high level by removing irrelevant standards for writing exemptions.

Forrest Brown is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. His columns run Thursdays.

Making the grade

American education needs state-by-state solutions

Russell Bogue
Opinion Columnist

Little is more integral to the prosperity of a nation than its ability to educate the next generation. Economists and sociologists alike have long championed the development of “human capital” — the collective skills and knowledge of a population — as increasingly important to economic growth and rising standards of living. President Barack Obama has made it an explicit goal of his administration to increase the number of Americans graduating from college. In a world dominated by the necessity for highly skilled labor, where the greatest growth is coming from high-tech industries, creating and sustaining an educated workforce is imperative to remaining competitive.

It is disappointing, then, to consider the results from the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), released Tuesday. PISA is an international test administered by the Organization for Economic Development (OECD) every three years to test the proficiency of 15-year-olds in three areas: science, reading and math. In 2012, the U.S. ranked 26th in math, 21st in science and 17th in reading among the 34 OECD countries. In science and reading, U.S. students scored

around the OECD average, while we slipped below the average in math — hardly fitting results for the world’s current economic superpower and a self-proclaimed “exceptional” nation. According to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, these results are a “picture of educational stagnation.”

Duncan is right. Shanghai, topped the PISA list. Finland, Ireland, Korea and a host of other countries outperformed U.S. students, even though American students have traditionally reported the highest rates of confidence in their academic abilities. On the whole, U.S. students are told they are the best even as they slip further and further behind their peers in other countries.

While it is necessary to recognize the severity of the problem — and the urgency with which we should address it — it is equally necessary to temper our response with a healthy dose of realism. As much as the PISA test results say about the current state of education in the United States, it is what they don’t say that should most inform our approach to education reform in this country. For example, this year, for the first time, three states in the U.S. fielded enough test-takers to receive individual results: Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Florida. Among these, both Connecticut and Massachusetts performed better than

the country as a whole, fielding a higher percentage of top performers in every category and equaling or surpassing the OECD average on all tests, while Florida fell behind in all areas. Although we have data on only these three states, we can reasonably surmise that similarly wide variation exists across multiple U.S. states.

It is therefore questionable to

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“The problems of U.S. education cannot be chalked up to the lack of a nationwide curriculum or too few charter schools or any number of the simple fixes that reformers sometimes champion.”

conclude from the dismal PISA results that there needs to be some federal reform — such as No Child Left Behind, President George W. Bush’s hallmark education bill — to address America’s failing schools. Some states are doing better than others. A state-by-state approach will be necessary to pull up the scores of states that are falling behind without stifling the states who are leading the pack. The problems of U.S. education cannot be chalked up to the lack of a nationwide curriculum or too few charter schools or any number

of the simple fixes that reformers sometimes champion.

Using the PISA test results as justification for any federal action would be a mistake. The autonomy of states is one of America’s greatest strengths, and the case is no different with education reform. Local and state level problems demand local and state-level solutions.

But what exactly are the problems we are facing? The PISA test results can point us to the other confounding variable in the equation: poverty. According to the OECD, 15 percent of variance in test results can be explained

by the socioeconomic status of the child taking the test.

The U.S. has the one of the highest child poverty rates in the world out of developed nations, and schools in the poorest districts in the U.S. post the worst scores on the test. Conversely, students in the wealthiest districts posted such outstanding scores that, taken by themselves, they would have been near the top of the charts in every category. Although poverty alone cannot explain the poor performance of American students, it certainly seems to be one of the

most significant factors contributing to academic success. Lawmakers across the nation would thus be better served by combating the effects and causes of childhood poverty — undernutrition, lack of access to health care, inadequate time for studying — than they would by fixating on implementing various educational reform policies.

The 2012 PISA test results are discouraging, and they should serve as a wake-up call. Stagnant scores for the past decade, despite massive spending per student and significant reform efforts, point to problems that lie outside the realm of curriculum development and class sizes. Although we should use the test to spur us to greater action, we should be wary of drawing incorrect conclusions from the data. The problems the U.S. faces vary widely across its states, and factors outside the traditionally delineated realm of “education reform” may be the most influential. Our approach should be a comprehensive, creative, and state-level effort to improve under-performing districts without hampering the districts doing well. Perhaps then, in three years’ time, we will have something to celebrate again.

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Immaculate deception

The myth of Santa Claus hurts kids more than it helps them

George Knaysi
Opinion Columnist

Now that we’ve entered the holiday delirium between Thanksgiving and Christmas, millions of parents and young children will indulge in that cherished seasonal tradition — the legend of Santa Claus. To start, let’s brush off the annoying convention of winking at the truth rather than stating it outright. I’ll say it: Santa is a lie perpetuated by parents and society. At the risk of being called a “scrooge,” I assert we should not deceive children about the existence of Father Christmas.

It’s clear the Santa Claus illusion cannot survive without deception, so what’s the scope of our dishonesty? It is not — as many parents claim — a simple “white lie” but rather a network of lies. To sustain the illusion, one must preserve a front of deception, complete with planted evidence (e.g.

cookies and milk) and a detailed backstory (elves, flying reindeer and so on). Given the elaborate nature of these falsehoods — and the vulnerability of the population who ingests them — we hold an ethical responsibility to make a good-faith effort at justification.

Since parents expend so much time and energy on the myth, one might expect their children to receive large benefits in return. Increased happiness and a stimulated imagination are two of the most cited. Yet there is little to suggest that axing the Santa Claus lie would destroy these holiday perks. Wouldn’t children take as much pleasure — possibly more — in knowing that their parents (instead of a stranger) are responsible for their gifts? As for stimulating the imagination, if belief in St. Nick inspired creativity, then every child would naturally develop his own version of Santa Claus. Instead, children simply adopt the illusions their parents

perpetuate.

The myth also discourages healthy skepticism. Naturally, a child questions a supernatural entity that seems inconsistent with their observations of the world. I remember asking my parents how such a large man fits down a narrow chimney or how he travels across the world in one night. But as kids interrogate their parents, they might be met with oversimplified explanations like “it’s magic” or “you just have to believe” — responses that dead-end any rational inquiry. And according to standard legend, overly skeptical children who don’t believe in Santa Claus receive coal.

The Santa Claus model of reward and punishment imparts a highly dysfunctional value system to children. Parents presumably want to teach their children to act ethically for the correct reasons — because it’s the “right thing to do” rather than for some ulterior motive. But the Santa Claus mod-

el works against this by training kids to behave well in exchange for presents. You cannot separate out these fickle incentives without destroying a central part of the mythology. Moreover, it implies that a complex human being can be reduced into categories of “naughty” or “nice” based on a small number of actions.

Similarly, Santa’s bizarre value system further enables our (nearly pathological) materialist culture. This problem characterizes the entire “holiday season,” but the figure of St. Nick makes it particularly easy for a young child to internalize these values. If Father Christmas plays the part of a god in the average child’s naive worldview, he is surely a god of materialism. The advertising industry pushes this idea relentlessly, and the Santa myth ensures that children pay close attention to the goods marketed to them and their parents. For all the talk of “family,” “thankfulness” and

“the important things in life,” Santa — as he currently stands in American mythology — is a tenacious distraction from such values.

Christmas encompasses more traditions than any other major American holiday. The “magic of the season” that people so frequently cite would remain intact without the Santa Claus deception. I could continue with arguments against the lies — issues of religion, of misplaced authority, of parent-child trust — but hopefully you get the point. Considering the benefits and costs to children, the Santa Claus myth seems to be more about parents than their kids. If we’re going to invest so much time and energy into a lie, let’s make it one that serves a constructive end.

George Knaysi is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. His columns run Tuesdays.

A better Board

The Board of Visitors should be reformed to reflect the University's democratic values

Gray Whisnant
Opinion Columnist

It hasn't been an easy few years for the Board of Visitors. Between the firestorm and popular outcry that resulted from University President Teresa Sullivan's abrupt dismissal and reinstatement in June 2012 and the more recent protests over cuts to AccessUVa, the Board has been a lightning rod for dissent from both the student body and faculty more now than any other time in recent memory. Most Board members are thoughtful people who want the best for the University. But reforms need to be made to promote transparency and accountability. The recent unpopular decisions about the University's leadership and student aid are not isolated actions; they are products of an undemocratic system that privileges connectedness above educational expertise.

The Sullivan ouster made the need for more accountability and democratic control of the Board painfully evident. Because of then-Rector Helen Dragas' controversial actions leading up to Sullivan's dismissal, the Faculty Senate overwhelmingly called for her resignation in a vote of no confidence, and more than 1,500 people signed a petition calling for her to step down as well. Despite this overwhelming dissent, Dragas continued to hold her position.

A similar situation occurred with the AccessUVa cuts. Though no polling has been done, the most visible sentiment at least has been one of frustration with the Board's per-

ceived insensitivity to the needs of poor families. There have been student-led protests, General Assembly delegates voicing their frustration, and many alumni participating with current students in the "I Am Not a Loan" campaign expressing their discontent with the decision. As with Sullivan's resignation, popular sentiment has had little effect on creating any structural rather than cosmetic changes. Student and public opinion may have brought Sullivan back, but much of the membership of the Board remained in place with the same goals as before, and AccessUVa cuts remain policy.

Supporters of the current system will likely claim it is working as it is supposed to, but this could not be further from the truth. These recent decisions that do not reflect the wishes of students and faculty highlight the urgency of reforms, and it is misleading to say that there is no way for changes to be made. Depending on one's comfort level with modifications to the current structure, there are a number of reforms ranging from modest to radical that would all have the effect of making the Board of Visitors work more for the University's best interests.

One of the least disruptive, but still beneficial, changes would be for the University's student body to lobby and vocally pressure the governor to nominate new kinds of Board members. The current voting makeup of the Board contains two lawyers, two developers, two doctors, two lobbyists, two telecom business owners, an advertising executive, an energy company CEO, a hedge fund manager, a distribution company

CEO, the owner of a holding company, an investment corporation owner and one former university president. The Board is 94 percent white, 76 percent male and has only one member with an extensive professional background in academia.

With these demographics, it should hardly be surprising that the Board is proposing policies that primarily benefit upper-income and business school students. Even absent a reform in the structure of the Board, Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe should strive to nominate Board members who will bring fresh experiences and backgrounds to the University's decision-making process. For instance, the AccessUVa cuts will disproportionately affect minorities, but there is not a single Hispanic member of the Board. It would also be difficult to see how the University would be negatively impacted by having more professors or former academic administrators on the Board who have first-hand experience with the impact of budget decisions on students and faculty. A Board member from the nonprofit sector who is not influenced by the desire to run the University like a for-profit corporation would also be a welcome addition.

A moderate but significant change would be to allow the student member on the Board to have a vote. Though this would not have proved decisive in the recent vote to cut AccessUVa, giving the University's student representative voting power would make other Board members to take the concerns of the students more seriously and result in other members lobbying more aggressive-

ly for student approval. For a school that prides itself on its commitment to student self-governance, giving students representation on the body that matters the most would be a natural extension of this vision.

While most students who have served on the Board have had exemplary academic and extracurricular records, it is difficult to foist the mantle of representing the University's entire diverse student body upon one person. In addition to granting the existing student representative on the Board a vote, more students could be added with voting powers or to give other Board members a better sense of the makeup of the student body. As the ratio of students to other Board members increases, so too will the ratio of actual University priorities to the Board's agenda.

If the University is serious about keeping the Board democratically accountable, the Faculty Senate's powers could be expanded beyond issuing strongly worded statements. Instead the Faculty Senate could receive some sort of referendum or veto power on crucial Board decisions. If, in the case of the Sullivan ouster, the Faculty Senate could override the Board's decision with a two-thirds majority, the whole crisis could have been avoided. Similarly, the Faculty Senate could serve as a check to the excesses of a Board more captive to corporate interests than it would like to admit.

Perhaps the most radical and transformative change would be extending the referendum or veto to the student body. While this may seem unfathomable now, the underlying notions behind it are very

traditional. The idea that people who are affected by government policies should have input on the crafting of those policies is one we adhere to in every other sphere of our nation's civic life, and extending it to the student body of this University would dramatically reorient the priorities of the institution in a more inclusive way. Right now, the University likes to pride itself on student self-government, but if it only allows the Student Council and by extension the student body to opine on what's going on versus actually change it, this commitment rings hollow. Such a veto or referendum might only be used in extreme cases or when the margin of a vote is especially close. But however it is implemented, it could lead to policies like expanded support for low-income students and a general reflection of the priorities of the people who actually participate in the daily life of the University.

Discussing these proposals to reform the Board can pave the way to creating an atmosphere in which the University acknowledges the Board's limitations and problems. Instead of bemoaning the current state of affairs and wondering why things are so bad, we can work to perfect the vision of a democratic university. If self-governance is as critical to the University's missions as we've been led to believe, making the Board more reflective of our Academical Village is only common sense.

Gray Whisnant is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. His columns run Wednesdays.

Not seen and not heard

The latest "Hunger Games" film perpetuates a stereotype about black men

Dani Bernstein
Opinion Columnist

As an avid fan of the books, I greeted the latest film adaptation of "The Hunger Games" series with enthusiasm. I don't mind most of the film's divergences from the book. There are few, and most are slight. But one place where the film deviates from the book is worth some discussion. When Katniss and Peeta go on their victory tour, they visit the districts of each of their former competitors; the first district is District 11. In the film, District 11 seems to be the only primarily non-white district (the racial makeup of each district isn't elaborated on in the books).

As Katniss and Peeta make short speeches about Thresh and Rue, the two tributes from District 11, we see Thresh and Rue's families on elevated

stands. This is the small detail that irks me: neither Thresh nor Rue, who are both black, seem to have a father. In the book, Thresh's family consisted of his grandmother and sister, so here the film has stayed true to the text. But Rue's family consisted of a father, a mother and siblings. In the film, we see only Rue's mother and siblings.

There is a longstanding stereotype that black men become absent fathers. I don't think the makers of "The Hunger Games" wish to perpetuate that stereotype, but in this scene they at least border on perpetuating it, especially since Thresh and Rue's families are the only black families we see in both the first and second "Hunger Games" films. Many people accept the stereotype of the absent black father. Even if there is no explicit reason Thresh and Rue's fathers are absent, audience members who believe this stereotype might infer that

Thresh and Rue's fathers intentionally abandoned them.

As with most stereotypes, the black matriarchy stereotype is rooted in some truth: according to the 2013 U.S. Census, 67.8 percent of black women who gave birth this year were unmarried, compared to 26 percent of white women. This disparity is used to fuel the belief that black men are worse fathers than white men — a racist sentiment in and of itself. But these numbers alone don't provide a solid basis for that belief.

The circumstances of black and white births are extremely different. Members of the black community tend to be in a lower economic class than members of the white community, and class plays a large role in how families are shaped. According to the same census cited above, 68.9 percent of women with the lowest household incomes who gave birth

this year were unmarried, compared to 9 percent of women with the highest household incomes. Since race and class are largely related in the U.S., it is unreasonable to conclude that race, as opposed to class, is the causal factor in creating single-parent homes.

Of course, that hasn't stopped people from concluding that race and parenting ability are related. This belief transcends statistical evidence; it comes from a general history of promoting white supremacy.

This cultural issue is much larger than the movie scene that sparked its discussion. The scene in question is short, but these films are made carefully and deliberately; at some point, there was a conversation about whether or not Rue's family should be portrayed as it was in the book. For whatever reason, the final decision did not take into account a long-

standing and offensive American tradition of denigrating black men as bad parents.

The absent black father stereotype won't become rampant just because of this one scene, and either way that particular stereotype is already widespread. But that doesn't excuse these filmmakers' lack of attentiveness to this issue. Media of all forms have considerable influence over our cultural convictions and if there's a chance to negate a stereotype, or at least to avoid reinforcing it, then people who have any level of control over media should take it. In this case, the filmmakers should have been more aware of the impact of even the simplest artistic choices.

Dani Bernstein is an Opinion columnist for The Cavalier Daily. Her columns run Tuesdays.

HUMOR

Just for wits.

A

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO YOUR FINALS

Chris Bauer
Humor Columnist

The Christmas season has come upon us. This was rude of the Christmas season, because usually it's good to warn your partner before that happens.

I sincerely apologize. Christmas and winter break are not a time for filthy double entendres. Christmas is a time for family. So I had decided to write you all a family-friendly Christmas story this week, departing from my usual uncensored filth (this, dear reader, is a little in-joke for the editors of The Cavalier Daily who told me I couldn't use the word "sex" in a column because presumably you kids still haven't had that explained to you).

Unfortunately, after a few tries ("Hubert the Quadruple Amputee Saves Christmas" and "Santa Brings the Good Kids Adderall") I realized family-friendly wasn't my forte, so I've given that up completely. Instead, I'll give you my wise unwanted fourth-year perspective on finals — especially those of you who are first years and therefore still more pupae than people.

So, finals. I won't get into stress management because I've already written a column about that, and as anyone who has seen my famous eye twitch can assure you, my tips were all incredibly effective. Instead, I thought you could all use a little more specific advice on what you may expect in your final exams, by subject. Bear in mind I have not actually taken most of these classes. But here goes:

ANTHROPOLOGY: Probably you will be asked about indigenous peoples, and whether or not they should be hunted for sport. (No.)

ARCHAEOLOGY: These tests will largely consist of multiple-choice questions, such as "If you find the Ark of the Covenant, should you open it? (A) Yes (B) No (C) Maybe (D) Only if you are a Nazi."

ART HISTORY: The finals for art history classes usually consist of seeing who can make the best rudimentary shelter from a cardboard box, and then who can get the most money for aluminum cans they have picked off the street. Like all class finals, it prepares the students majoring in the subject for their coming professional career.

STUDIO ART: As long as your final project is something incredibly pretentious and has vague phallic imagery in it somewhere, you are good to go.

ASTRONOMY: Expect questions about space.

BIOLOGY: The test will mostly be comprised of questions such as "What are frogs made of?" "How are jellyfish born?" and "What is the best way to make friends with a cat?"

CHEMISTRY: It's hard to tell exactly what's on the test because usually they're too smeared with tears.

CLASSICS: See ART HISTORY.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: 00110100101101010010100101001010.

DRAMA: Your finals will be a rich tapestry of interesting and applicable knowledge, which will carry you forward into a life of rewarding work and financial gain.

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES (Chinese/Japanese): See CHEMISTRY.

ECONOMICS: Write a short essay explaining what economics is, being sure to not reveal that although you are a fourth year at one of the finest public schools in the nation you're still not sure what the exact definition of economics is.

ENGLISH: I'm not going to make fun of you poor bastards; you've been given a hard enough time as it is.

ENGINEERING (Any type): Your final will be you working on a project for 48 hours, having it

fail completely, contemplating dropping out of school and becoming a roadie for Bon Jovi, and then having a nice moment where you remember that no matter how poorly you do, you're still almost definitely going to get a job. Things aren't so bad.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES: Your final will consist of sinking a whaling ship which takes all 230 souls aboard to the deep cold embrace of Neptune.

FRENCH: Your final will consist of surrendering to the German class.

JEWISH STUDIES: Sorry I put you right next to the French joke. That was poorly planned.

MATHEMATICS: See CHEMISTRY.

MUSIC: Oh, I don't know, "Harvest," because I assume if you're majoring in music your name is probably something like Harvest. Your final consists of strumming on a zither on the Corner. You disgust me.

PHILOSOPHY: Your final will consist of proving that your final, theoretically, does not exist, and is therefore meaningless.

POLITICS: God knows.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES: Your final will consist of deciding you're going to drop your religious studies major and just focus on the other one instead.

SPANISH: Your final will be about Spanish vocabulary and grammar, idiot.

WOMEN, GENDER & SEXUALITY: Any joke I make here will get me in trouble with about 35 percent of my friends on Facebook, so pass.

So, in a nutshell, that's what to expect. Once you've finished, congratulations! You're free! Pack up your dorm room and head home to the loving embrace of your parents, which will last for exactly three minutes before they ask you if you've picked a major yet, at which point you break down into tears and scream "WHAT DID YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN WHEN YOU NAMED ME HARVEST?" causing your parents to just stare at you blankly while, from over in the corner, your siblings Stormfront and Basketweaver nod in silent support. Some people never learn.

Chris Bauer is a humor columnist for The Cavalier Daily.



Continued from page 1

Sometimes guys got right in front of the rim. We tried to say 'get to the line,' but it seemed like nothing was working. We told them, 'stay in there, don't let down defensively, you will get a good look and get things going,' but it just didn't happen tonight."

Virginia was down just 25-20 at halftime, but early on the in the second half, even a five-point lead seemed insurmountable. Despite holding Wisconsin to its lowest point total this season, the team's consistent lack of a scoring threat made it impossible to fight back. Parrantes led the team in scoring with just eight points and hit the team's singular 3-pointer in the first half.

Harris has had a knack for stepping up in big games — he had 19 points in the team's early season loss to Virginia Commonwealth and famously had 36 points in Virginia's upset against Duke last season. Wednesday, though, the guard looked flustered by the Wisconsin defense, scoring two points on 1-for-10 shooting. At times he looked to be trying too hard to create shots, barreling down the lane and picking up a charge late in the second half.

"He said, 'my shots are not working so I am going to try to put my head down' — and that wasn't working," Bennett said. "They were waiting for him in the lane and sealing every alley to the rim. They made him shoot a lot of contested shots. He was a bit out of sorts largely due to their defense, but I think he would agree that he was not where he needed to be."

Harris pointed to the Badgers' effective game plan in containing Virginia.

"Wisconsin ... they just always seem to be in the right area, right positioning, they're just very fundamentally sound and force you to take tough shots," Harris said. "We're shooting over the top, or always contesting, whether it be on the drive or the jump."

Bennett and the players were obviously disappointed with the loss, but they were careful to put the game

M BBALL | Harris sputters against Wisconsin

in context. Wisconsin came into Charlottesville a top-ten team, looking to pay the Cavaliers back for last year's 60-54 loss in the same ACC-Big Ten challenge.

"I think that we got out toughed and outworked," Harris said. "It was similar to what we did to them last year in Wisconsin, making it tough on them defensively, having them grind. They came in and did the exact same thing to us."

Bennett served as an assistant under Badger coach Bo Ryan, and he recognized going into the game that the matchup was going to be difficult. Nothing more than a complete team effort was going to be sufficient to get a win, and the team's effort Wednesday certainly did not merit a victory.

"I knew playing Wisconsin you are going to have to work to get stuff," Bennett said. "They are going to be patient. They were more patient tonight than I have seen all year. Our defense was set and we made them work, but that are not going to beat themselves. We have some warts as every team does, and when all of the guys go cold at once it is hard."

The loss was the team's second this season to a ranked team, a trend that could cause concern. The Wisconsin game was the team's last marquee non-conference game, and a win would have given the team a big boost. The players were hesitant to read too much into it.

"We have to face every opponent like that are a ranked team," Mitchell said. "It was two good teams that we lost to, and two teams that we thought we should have beaten, but we just fell short so we now need to move on to the next one." With two and a half minutes to go in Virginia's Wednesday night game against No. 8 Wisconsin, the Cavaliers picked up a

rebound and brought the ball down the court looking to start something — anything, really. Senior guard Joe Harris went to the rim for a layup and missed. Senior forward Akil Mitchell corralled the offensive rebound and went up for his own layup — it missed.

That seemed to be the story of the night for the Cavaliers. Shot after shot, the players found themselves looking at miss after miss, and nothing — inside shooting, outside shooting — seemed to be effective. Even in the midst of an impressive defensive performance, the abysmal shooting effort doomed Virginia (7-2) as they fell to the Badgers (9-0) 48-38.

"I thought we lost our composure a little bit," coach Tony Bennett said. "We had some opportunities to finish and did not, but at times we kind of just

put our head down and drove the pile, and it was too much. ... When it mattered [Wisconsin was] just sounder or more poised, and made the plays."

The stat line after the game told the tale. Virginia shot just 23.4 percent from the field — the fourth lowest tally in school history — and made just one field goal outside of the paint all game. There were two separate runs in the second half where the Cavaliers went nearly nine minutes without making a basket — the team shot 15 percent for the half. It was a total team dysfunction — no individual player shot better than 50 percent in the game.

"It's rare that the team plays like this all together," sophomore guard Malcolm Brogdon said. "Usually at least one person is hitting shots. Tonight we just weren't clicking. We just need to be better."

The team's collapse was all the more worrying given its start. Virgin-



Kelsey Grant | The Cavalier Daily
Senior Joe Harris and sophomore Justin Anderson defend (top); the Cavalier bench monitors the action (bottom).

ia look good on offense early, jumping out to a 13-11 lead in the first seven minutes of the game. Freshman guard London Parrantes made the shot to put the Cavaliers ahead, and the team was shooting 6-for-10 at that point. Throughout the rest of the game, the team would shoot 5-for-37.

"We look at the quality of shots, and talked about trying to go inside," Bennett said. "We were fairly patient. Sometimes guys got right in front of the rim. We tried to say 'get to the line,' but it seemed like nothing was working. We told them, 'stay in there, don't let down defensively, you will get a good look and get things going,' but it just didn't happen tonight."

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The loss was the team's second this season to a ranked team, a trend that could cause concern. The Wisconsin game was the team's last marquee non-conference game, and a win would have given the team a big boost in discussions later this season of a potential NCAA Tournament berth. The players, however, are hesitant to read too much into it.

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Men's Basketball Winter Break:

12/7: at Green Bay, 5 p.m.
12/21: vs. Northern Iowa, 4 p.m.
12/23: vs. Norfolk State, 7 p.m.
12/30: at Tennessee, 7 p.m.
1/4: at Florida State, 5 p.m.
1/8: vs. Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
1/11: at N.C. State, 5 p.m.

Ocean-throwing blues

In just its second episode, the cult television classic "Arrested Development" produced what remains one of its most iconic moments. G.O.B. Bluth, the lovably hapless oldest son of the show's zany titular family, attempts to throw a check into the ocean to spite his younger and more responsible brother Michael. The attempt fails in miserable, albeit

hilarious, fashion.

To say Virginia failed to "throw it in the ocean" in a deflating 48-38 home defeat to No. 8 Wisconsin Wednesday night might represent a gross understatement. The Cavaliers' 23.4 percent shooting marks the fourth lowest in school history and the 38 points the lowest ever regis-

FRITZ METZINGER
SPORTS EDITOR

tered in a Big Ten/ACC Challenge game, with a startling multitude of those missed shots coming on opportunities so simple the Frisbee Puppies who performed at halftime were shaking their heads in disdain.

Senior guard Joe Harris, so often the team's life preserver during similar shooting maladies last

season, shot 1-of-10 from the field, 0-for-4 from 3-point range and looked deranged with frustration throughout the second half. His senior counterpart, forward Akil Mitchell, picked up three first-half fouls and finished with five points to prolong a disappointing start to the 2013-13 campaign.

That the collective, incessant moaning of 11,142 exasperated

John Paul Jones Arena patrons was interrupted by the haphazard and aimless whistling of referee and officiating Voldemort Karl Hess only compounded the agony.

It was a disaster nonpareil for Virginia men's basketball, one Murphy's Law somehow seems in-

see METZINGER, page 23

No. 1 Cavaliers pursue first national championship



Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily
Senior defender Emily Sonnett has been a rock for Virginia all season, earning first team All-ACC honors while helping steer her teammates to a watershed season for the women's soccer program.

The No. 1 and top-seeded Virginia women's soccer team will travel to Cary, N.C. on Friday to make its first College Cup appearance since 1991. Virginia will face UCLA, the only team from outside of the ACC to make the Final Four.

The Cavaliers (24-1-0, 13-0-0 ACC) have seemingly cruised through the first four rounds of the tournament, yielding just a single goal in the stretch. Virginia has yet to trail in a match during the tournament thanks to a confluence of superb offense and defense from a squad that has held a monopoly on the national top ranking since September.

Virginia's defense has anchored the team throughout the season, although it has gone about its business somewhat under the radar because of the team's prolific offense. The back four — led by senior Shasta Fisher and sophomore Emily Sonnett — have helped the Cavaliers and freshman goalkeep-

er Morgan Stearns record 16 shut-outs on the season, three of which have come in the tournament. Perhaps an even more telling statistic is that the Cavaliers have allowed just six shots on goal throughout all four tournament games.

The offense's performances during the tournament — and indeed the entire season — have been equally impressive. Virginia's opponents consistently pack its defensive third with 10 players in an attempt to stymie the Cavalier onslaught. Despite this tactic, the Virginia offense is the highest scoring in the country with 77 goals on its resume. This level of production has not been slowed by the high-level of competition in tournament play; rather, Virginia scored 10 goals in the past four games, dominating the time of possession by a large margin in each.

The Bruins (21-1-2, 9-0-2 Pac-12) have had a stellar season in their own right, with their only

loss coming in early September to then-No.1 North Carolina in Durham, N.C. UCLA has largely dominated its opponents thereafter to maintain a national ranking inside of the top five for the majority of the season.

Similarly to the Cavaliers, the Pac-12 champions seemed to be cruising through the tournament, crushing their first three opponents by a combined score of 8-0. In the NCAA quarterfinals, however, the Bruins clashed with the defending champion Tar Heels once again in Chapel Hill. UCLA edged North Carolina by a score of 1-0 in a double overtime thriller to stamp its ticket to the Final Four.

The battle between these cross-country foes is set to begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday. The winner will face the victor of the other semifinal between Virginia Tech and Florida State in Sunday's championship game.

—compiled by Ryan Taylor

Revitalized Thomsen, Virginia welcome streaking Huskies

After enduring sophomore slump, defender plays pivotal role for team aiming to reach first College Cup since 2009 title-winning group

Matthew Morris
Associate Editor

As a freshman in 2012, Virginia defender Scott Thomsen started every one of the Cavaliers' 21 matches and finished with a team-high eight assists and 1,991 minutes played. The Brick, N.J. native set up the most Virginia scores since Nico Colaluca's 10-assist campaign in 2006 and was on the passing end of five game-winning goals.

In his sophomore campaign, however, Thomsen's in-game impact on the No. 9 Virginia men's soccer team has been as sporadic as his up-and-down playing-time. The left back started Virginia's first seven games but then assumed a reserve role when freshman midfielder Patrick Foss broke into the starting corps Sept. 28 against Syracuse. By the ACC Tournament, Thomsen was all but out of the Cavaliers' rotation. He mustered a grand total of 13 minutes in three games.

But as Virginia (12-5-5, 4-3-4 ACC) braces for No. 10 Connecticut this Friday at Klöckner Stadium, a berth in the NCAA Tournament's College Cup on the line, a rejuvenated Thomsen represents one of the Cavaliers' best hopes for securing a trophy-raising end

to 2013. The defender is back in coach George Gelnovatch's lineup and, after scoring the first of Virginia's three goals in a Round of 16 win against No. 11 Marquette, is feeling good.

"As a soccer player, whatever role your coach gives you, [you] just take it and run with it," Thomsen said. "I'm just trying to keep myself focused and keep working in training, and when I've gotten the opportunity, I've been able to do pretty well."

The battle between Thomsen and Foss for minutes at the left back position reflects Virginia's impressive depth. The Cavalier coaching staff preaches tenacity in training sessions, and the Virginia players know they can work their way up the depth chart by playing strongly on the days between games. Even with the Cavaliers nearing the end of the season, the starting lineup remains volatile.

"[Scott] has been competing in a very positive way with Patty Foss, as Patty was competing with him when Scottie was starting," Gelnovatch said. "I think when you have guys that are competing for positions in a healthy manner, you know, I think it makes your team better. And Patty's still competing with Scottie for that position."

For the time being, Thomsen

appears to have seized the starting spot at left back. He swung both the Marquette (13-6-2, 6-2-1 Big East) and St. John's Tournament tilts in the Cavaliers' favor, scoring Virginia's first goal against the Golden Eagles to help overcome junior defender Matt Brown's first minute red card and setting up junior forward Eric Bird's 64th minute strike against the Red Storm (11-7-2, 3-4-2 Big East).

Now, Thomsen and Virginia must overcome one of the nation's hottest teams to reach the semifinals. The Huskies (12-2-8, 4-0-4 American Athletic Conference) are in the midst of a 17-match unbeaten streak and survived an early 2-0 deficit this past Sunday to tie the game and advance against top-seeded UCLA on penalty kicks. UConn boasts a physically-gifted lineup that the Cavaliers will be hard-pressed to shut down.

"We've got to make sure that the game doesn't turn into a game that's all about strength and athleticism," Gelnovatch said. "We've got to put our passes together. We've got to keep our share of possession. We've got to make sure we keep in particular their number 10, who's their leading goal-scorer, in front of us."

Number 10 is freshman midfielder Cyle Larin, the Huskies' leader in goals (14) and shots



Jenna Truong | The Cavalier Daily
Senior defender Scott Thomsen winds up to boot a ball out of his team's half in a game earlier this season. Thomsen notched the first goal in Virginia's 3-1 victory against Marquette last Sunday.

(93). Larin has netted five game-winning goals this year, but he is far from UConn's sole offensive threat. Senior forward Mamadou Diouf put the Huskies ahead to stay in a first round win against Quinnipiac, and though he has scored only two goals in 2013 —

one year after finishing sixth in all of Division I with 15 tallies — both have come in the Tournament. Then there's 10-assist junior Adria Beso, the American Athletic Con-

see M SOCCER page 14



Emily Gorkman | The Cavalier Daily

Junior forward Sarah Imovbioh has mixed stellar showings with punchless performances to average 11.4 points and 9.1 rebounds per game so far this season.

Uneven squad craves stability

Plagued by offensive, rebounding inconsistency, Cavs look to steady ship vs. Michigan

Matthew Morris
Associate Editor

Days before the Virginia women's basketball team tipped off its 2013-14 season, the Cavaliers talked about their hope — one they almost described as an expectation — of playing in the NCAA Tournament for the first time in coach Joanne Boyle's three-year tenure. With senior guards Ataira Franklin, Lexie Gerson and Kelsey Wolfe starting in the backcourt and junior forward Sarah Imovbioh bringing physical, energetic post-play, Virginia appeared primed to contend for a slot in the 68-team field.

Virginia (3-4) is only seven games into its 30-game schedule, but to this point, the Cavaliers' Tournament worthiness looks dubious. Virginia has shot the ball and crashed the boards with only intermittent success, and impressive offensive displays — the 95-point deluge against Louisiana Tech, for example — lose their shimmer when paired with recurrent woeful shooting performances.

Thursday night at John Paul Jones Arena, the Cavaliers will look to take a step toward Tournament-level consistency against Michigan in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge. The Wolverines (5-3) come in to the game having won four of their past five games, and with a combined 42 wins and two March Madness appearances in the last two seasons, they have a recent history of playing Tournament-caliber basketball. Michigan also boasts a prowess on the glass and from beyond the arc — the Wolverines launch 18 3-pointers per game and hit 41.7 percent of them — that could give Virginia fits.

"They're a very high-motor offensive team, but they're a set team — they run a lot of sets — and so we've got to take some things away," Boyle said. "[We] just can't let them run through their stuff."

Junior guard Shannon Smith leads Michigan in scoring at 17.3 points per game, but represents just one of Michigan's bevy of scoring options. Six Wolverines put up seven or more points per game, including freshman guard Siera

Thompson, Michigan's top long-range threat with 20 treys in eight games. The Wolverines have averaged 72.9 points per game thus far this season.

While Michigan has played impressive basketball of late — the Wolverines have registered three double-digit wins in their past five games and lost by two against No. 13 LSU on Saturday — Virginia is coming off a forgettable performance against Kansas State, its third consecutive defeat and second in two days at the Junkanoo Jam Tournament on Grand Bahama Island. The Cavaliers lost the battle on the boards, and though they held the Wildcats to 32.8 percent shooting, Virginia's 26.8 percent and 0-for-10 output from 3-point range sealed an embarrassing loss.

"We just could not make a basket," Boyle said. "We didn't have a lot of legs. We played a lot more one-on-one basketball. We weren't running through our stuff. The pace of the game early was really

see W BBALL page 14

Matmen travel west, aim to shine in Las Vegas tourney

Cliff Keen Invitational features vaunted field, provides opportunity for No. 13 team, individuals to make statement against marquee opponents

Matthew Wurzburger
Associate Editor

The No. 13 Virginia wrestling team travels west this weekend to compete in the 32nd annual Cliff Keen Las Vegas Collegiate Wrestling Invitational. This individual tournament features some of the nation's best and will be the Cavaliers' final competition of the 2013 calendar year.

This year marks Virginia's second consecutive appearance at the Cliff Keen Invitational. The Cavaliers finished seventh out of a field of 32 last season and had three wrestlers place in the top five of their weight classes.

Junior Nick Sulzer was one of the three, capturing third place at 165 pounds on his way to finishing the 2012-13 season as an All-American. Sulzer has been on fire through the first month of the season, going undefeated through nine matches and winning all in convincing fashion. He now sits as the third-ranked wrestler in the country in the 165-pound category.

"[Sulzer] was putting a lot of pressure on himself, but now that pressure is gone [after earn-

ing All-American honors]," Virginia coach Steve Garland said. "He knows he's talented, his work ethic is out of this world, and he wants to be a good steward of the talent he has been gifted."

An individual tournament the scale of the Cliff Keen Invitational is a unique beast. A deep run through a bracket compounds a high number of matches into two days of wrestling: weight-division champions will wrestle five times, while a third-place finisher will face six opponents. For a Virginia team coping with a number of bumps and bruises, the schedule promises a stiff challenge.

"The duration of the competition is really grueling on your body," Garland said. "My main concern has been making sure that we are in the best possible shape that we can be."

The stage lights will be burning brightly at the tournament, which serves as an early season mock-up of March's NCAA Championships. With the eyes of the wrestling community firmly affixed on Las Vegas this weekend, the Cavaliers have a golden opportunity to make a statement as a team and as individuals.

Virginia had a surprising 2012

season, putting themselves on the map as one of the stronger programs in collegiate wrestling. This year has been no different, and the Cavaliers are hovering on the fringes of the top 10 rankings. A strong showing this weekend will be crucial if the team wishes to ascend to the highest echelons of the sport.

"Many of the top 10 finishers in this year's national tournament will be in Las Vegas," Sako said. "We're knocking on the door. We're this close to contending for a top 10 position, and this will be a good test for us."

The event should offer an important opportunity for junior Gus Sako, who took a redshirt year in 2012 and appeared to vanish from the wrestling scene. A strong start to the season has earned Sako well-deserved attention, and if he wrestles to his ability in a 149-pound bracket featuring three top-10 opponents, he is certain to garner nationwide attention.

"This tournament is big for Sako," coach Garland said. "He can go out and make a name for himself on the national scene, and he is very excited about that."

Action begins Friday morning.

Wrestling's Winter Break:

1/1-1/2: Southern Scuffle, Chattanooga, Tenn., TBA
1/10-1/11: Virginia Duals, Hampton, Va., TBA



Emily Gorkman | The Cavalier Daily

After missing the 2012-13 campaign, redshirt junior Gus Sako has turned heads this season with a strong start in the 149-pound division.

Virginia football: an obituary

Today we mourn the loss of the Virginia football program, a program that brought joy to so many, but whose life tragically dwindled away this fall.

The football program was 125 years old, born in 1888. It perished Saturday evening, Nov. 30, at Scott Stadium in its lifelong hometown of Charlottesville, Va.

Throughout its life, the Virginia football program helped develop countless young men into superior football players, among them legends such as Bill Dudley and Heath Miller. It also took great pride in the classroom achievements of its players, as the team continuously produced Academic All-ACC caliber student athletes.

With two ACC Championships in 1989 and 1995 and 7 bowl wins in its lifespan, the program was never a powerhouse, but it posted its share of highlights. Its fondest gridiron memory in recent years was a 2011 win at Florida State, 14-13. The program also loved quieter, more intellectual pursuits, and could often be found reading in the MacGregor Room or wandering Grounds deep in contemplation.

The program's last year of life was a troubled one. Friends and supporters delighted as the season opened with an exciting comeback victory against Brigham Young, and junior tailback Kevin Parks would eventually rush for an impressive 1,031 yards, but the year's lowlights dwarfed its bright spots.

In the last few months, the program struggled with offensive difficulties and flaws in its coaching system that would ultimately lead to its demise. Coach Mike London, though his intentions were never sinister, was, in the end, the cause of death for the program. In his four years with the squad, he proved passionate and deeply loyal to the program, but, unfortunately, unable to care for such a fragile being.

The program is succeeded by London, who will remain in Charlottesville for at least another

year attempting to make amends for the damage he has done. It is also succeeded by new members

and 5-star recruits Andrew Brown and Quin Blanding, as well as a wealth of underclassmen. Though Brown and Blanding were too young to know the program in its glory days, they, with their teammates, will nonetheless try to do right by its legacy.

The service was held at Scott Stadium, as it seemed only fitting,

and Craig Littlepage officiated. Afterward, mourners reconvened at The Virginian. Friends and longtime supporters gathered around glasses of Evan Williams — the program's old favorite — and reminisced about good times: rushing the field after beating Miami, Jake McGee's iconic catch against Penn State, and driving hours down I-85 for the 2011 Chick-fil-A Bowl. London was not on hand to offer an apology, but sent his condolences through defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta. Tenuta received a warm welcome for his heroic efforts to salvage the program in its final, desperate moments.

The loss of the Virginia football program is a great blow to so many who have called Charlottesville home. Yet, after all the bitter tears shed and hands wrung about the demise of a program so many had cared for, it is imperative to remain hopeful. August 2014 approaches, offering the chance for a new kind of program to emerge from the ashes. We cannot dwell on the past, but must instead look fondly at days past, and keep them with us as we move forward.

Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "My theory has always been that if we are to dream, the flatteries of hope are as cheap, and pleasanter, than the gloom of despair." And so, in the face of death, we must despair, but find hope for years to come.

Of course, if that's not good enough, the Alumni Association can always just raise \$8.06 million and get Mike London out of Charlottesville. Go Hoos.



KERRY MITCHELL
SPORTS COLUMNIST

M SOCCER | UConn boasts skilled goalie

Continued from page 11

ference Midfielder of the Year, who plays the facilitator role in which Thomsen thrived as a freshman.

UConn's ace in the hole, however, is junior goalkeeper Andre Blake. The net-minder won Big East Goalkeeper of the Year in his freshman and sophomore seasons and took home the American Athletic Conference's version of the award this season. Blake relishes pressure-packed situations. He registered two saves in PK shootouts against both UCLA (12-3-5, 6-1-3 Pac-12) and No. 16 seed UMBC, whom the Huskies edged in the Tournament's second

round.

On paper, Virginia possesses the varied firepower to test Blake. The Cavaliers — with 13 goal-scorers in 2013 — can roll out player after player capable of depositing the ball in the back of the net.

"Coming into the season, scoring goals was a concern, you know, and the team has turned into a team that's actually good at scoring goals," Gelnovatch said. "I feel like that's a strength of ours. It's not one guy or even two guys. It's a team that's capable of scoring from a lot of different places in a lot of different ways."

Friday's game will be Virginia's

last at Klöckner Stadium, win or lose. Should the Cavaliers defeat the Huskies, they will travel to Philadelphia's PPL Park, home of MLS' Philadelphia Union, for a Dec. 13 semifinal against either No. 4 Maryland or No. 5 California. A loss, and it's home for the holidays.

"[This team has] developed a real mental toughness and a real will to win about them," Gelnovatch said. "And, again, it's not something that this time of year that just happens. It's something that you develop. As coaches, we try to kind of foster it ... But the players have been really, really good in that regard."

W BBALL | Rule changes hamper Imovbioh

Continued from page 11

fast ... What should have been a more settling game became a frantic game.

The Kansas State flop was a step down from Virginia's best game of the year, a 76-67 loss to No. 3 Tennessee on Thanksgiving Day. The Cavaliers played "Virginia basketball" in the matchup, forcing 20-plus turnovers and recording 15-plus assists, while also holding two of Tennessee's five double-figure scorers below their customary total and making the Volunteers play in the half court instead of getting out in transition. Virginia led for the entire first half before Tennessee stormed back after intermission to reject the Cavaliers' upset bid.

"We didn't allow second-chance points," Boyle said. "We took all of the rebounds away ... I thought the game-plan was great. It's just, we left too many free throws out on the table, and we

came out flat in the second half."

Mirroring Virginia as a whole, junior forward Sarah Imovbioh has been up-and-down to start the year. Imovbioh has four double-doubles, including a 20-point, 15-rebound showing against Kansas State, but she floundered in games against Tennessee (five points, five rebounds, three turnovers) and West Virginia (five points, zero rebounds, three turnovers). Imovbioh was limited by foul trouble in both games, and she is still adapting to the rule changes instituted by the NCAA to encourage higher-scoring games.

"Sometimes it's so hard for me because I go in super aggressive, and I don't feel like I'm fouling them, but they call it," Imovbioh said. "But I just have to adjust."

Boyle and the Cavaliers have not played to their standards to start the year, but

they remain confident in their ability to right the ship.

"We're young and we're a little injured, but we still got all the pieces, and we just got to stay the course with them," Boyle said. "They'll turn the corner."

Women's Basketball Winter Break:

12/17: vs. Maryland Eastern Shore, 7 p.m.

12/20: vs. Tulane*, 4:30 p.m.

12/21: vs. Florida Gulf Coast*, 7:05 p.m.

12/28: vs. Coppin State**, 2:30 p.m.

12/29: vs. Alabama or Princeton**, 2:30 p.m.

1/5: vs. Pittsburgh, 2 p.m.

1/9: at Virginia Tech, 7 p.m.

1/12: vs. Notre Dame, 2 p.m.

*FGCU Hilton Garden Inn/Homewood Suites Classic, Fort Myers, Fla.

**Cavalier Classic, John Paul Jones Arena

cavalierdaily.com

Finals? You can do it.



Love Connection: Romance, as endorsed by your meal plan

First-years look to find love in a hopeless place

Allie Griswold
Staff Writer



Gary

Year: First

Major: Mechanical Engineering

Hometown: Commack, N.Y.

Ideal date: Not too skinny (some curves), outgoing, able to take a joke, likes sports and can talk intellectually

What makes you a good catch? I'm attractive, smart, witty and always willing to have a good time.

What's your favorite pick-up line? I think they're all cheesy.

Describe yourself in one sentence: My deprecating humor has the tendency to push away people who aren't sure of themselves, but if you understand I'm kidding, you'll know how much I care for you.

Hanna

Year: First

Major: Pre-Commerce

Hometown: Charlottesville, Va.

Ideal date: Athletic, dark hair, taller than me, funny, competitive and quirky.

What makes you a good catch? I'm funny, bilingual, well-traveled and I don't take life too seriously.

What's your favorite pick-up line? "Do you have a band-aid? I just scraped my knee falling for you."

Describe yourself in one sentence: Loud, sarcastic, sports-loving Charlottesvillean who's looking for some fun!



The date: 6:30 p.m. at O'Hill

Hanna: I filled out the survey because I think it's fun to meet new people. I was looking for an adventure.

Gary: I was reading the Cav Daily online and saw a previous article for Love Connection. I had time to kill at Wilsdorf so I took 20 minutes and filled out the survey.

Hanna: I was surprised and excited when I found out I had been chosen. I told like everyone I knew.

Gary: We met in the O'Hill lobby. I was disheveled from my eight-hour train ride back to Charlottesville, but I noticed her white jacket against the dark outside. The white was like a beacon as I stood inside and waited.

Hanna: When I walked in, we both knew that it was each other. We shook hands and said hi.

Gary: She struck me as a nice girl. She definitely seemed smart and witty, which I like.

Hanna: I thought that he was cute and seemed friendly. We were in O'Hill, so we decided that we might as well go upstairs. I didn't want to walk all the way to the Corner, and he was hungry.

Gary: During dinner, the conversation was easy. It was pretty even – 50/50 – between the two of us. It was mostly quick conversation back and forth with very few moments of silence.

Hanna: We talked about everything. The Alabama-Auburn game was a hot topic, but we also talked about our family, backgrounds, hobbies and interests and what we want to do when we grow up.

Gary: She explained her job at a French restaurant, and I'm a big foodie so hearing her talk about that was really interesting.

Hanna: We found out that we have several friends in common. Two of his friends went to my high school, and he's in the same dorm as one of my friends on the hockey team.

Gary: She's big into languages, which I wish I [were too]. I picked her brain for a while about that. We even tried to describe the napkin box in our respective languages, although she was better at French than I was at Spanish.

Hanna: The conversation flowed well. I definitely talked a lot, but he contributed a lot as well. We were there for almost two hours and talked about a lot of different things. At one point, my friends came in and sat diagonally behind him and made eye contact with me the whole time.

Gary: I wasn't sure if there was any flirting going on. To be perfectly frank, I've never been really good at that. I usually go with what's more natural in

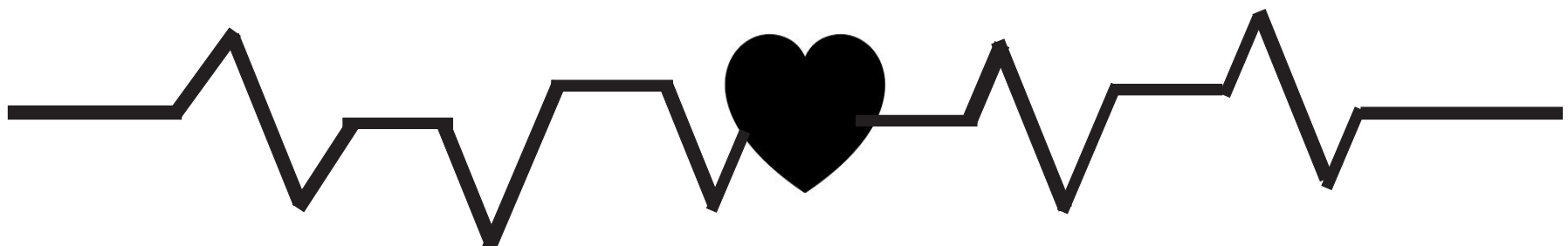
the situation.

Hanna: Because we were in O'Hill, it didn't feel very intimate. We both saw our friends, and the big TV screen was pretty distracting. After dinner, we walked out and said goodbye at the bottom.

Gary: She had to run to Alderman for some project so I asked for her number outside of O'Hill and then we split up.

Hanna: I would rate the date a 7.5. He didn't buy me dinner, and we didn't go for a stroll, but we got along well.

Gary: I would give the date a 7. It was good conversation, and I enjoyed talking to her, but the food was not good. I haven't been able to text her yet, but I think I will. If we go on a second date, hopefully we could go somewhere a little more upscale than O'Hill.



Top 10 Best Gifts to Give on a College Budget

Annie Mester
Life Columnist

1. A Fish

Believe it or not, one can purchase a living, breathing companion and everything it needs for seriously cheap. As someone who is currently living with a fish, I can attest it would make a great gift — just make sure you're giving it to your most responsible friend. (Preferably not a pescatarian: fish are friends, not food!) Common fish misconceptions: while they can't outwardly say it to you, they will judge you for eating that entire tub of Nutella in 15 minutes. Seriously, you can see it in their eyes.

2. \$5 Arch's

This one is great because a) everyone loves gooey brownie and b) you can literally get \$70 worth of toppings/froyo/emotional support for only \$5. Plus, you're in luck: Christmas Eve is on a Tuesday this year, which is conveniently the day Arch's offers this unbeatable \$5 special. Make it holiday themed: only use candy canes and vanilla ice cream, or get fancy and add your own food coloring to turn vanilla froyo red and green. This gift won't do so great under a Christmas tree, so be prepared to have to tactfully defend the freezer from any and all who have access ... especially siblings.

3. Target Dollar Section

Target is one of those stores you walk into wanting one thing, and leave with about 15 things you don't need. The one part of Target which can be claimed in bulk and guaranteed not to break the bank? The \$1 section. This glorious aisle contains anything from food to beach toys, mini bubbles to kitchen utensils. Though the offerings are occasionally questionable — I'm looking at you, Styrofoam duck visor — you'll find something for everyone on your list here. And probably yourself too.

4. A Meal Swipe

Everyone's been there: you realize there's only two weeks left in the semester and you have approximately 4,000 meal swipes left that won't transfer to next semester. You can only swipe into O'Hill so many times before Double Swipe Dean starts to judge you, but you feel badly for wasting the money spent on your meal plan. Plus Dollars are unquestionably reserved for the emotional eating that comes with finals, so what do you do with all your meal swipes? Gift them to your friends who don't have meal plans. They'll get a free meal plus all the first-year nostalgia that comes from the cereal and ice milk.

5. A Coupon for Emotional Support

Picture this: it's 2 a.m. and you're only two pages (single spaced) into the 15-page essay that's due in six hours. All you want is to simultaneously call your mom, cry and have someone to reassure you that even though you were assigned that essay in October, it totally makes sense to have started it now. Cue this gift — a promise to agree with everything you say, remind you that 'you is kind, you is smart, you is important,' and gently wipe away your stress-tears. I wouldn't suggest this gift if you are a bad liar and/or you value your sanity.

6. Chia Pet

This low-budget gift is perfect for the friend who thinks they can handle a living thing (read: fish) but you know that allowing said friend to own a real pet would involve a prompt call from PETA. With the right amount of enthusiasm and a limited amount of water, having a chia pet can convince anyone they have a green thumb. Boost your friend's confidence, while adding to the décor of their room, by gifting this grassy friend. This gift gets bonus points because of its versatility and mass appeal. Throwing a little Chia love makes a perfect last-minute Secret Santa present for that random girl in your pledge class you've spoken to twice.

7. DIY Pinterest Crafts

I'm about to let you in on a sorority girl's biggest secret: the power of the Mason Jar. I kid you not — put the least cute thing you can think of into one of these magic jars and instantly everyone thinks you've created the most adorable thing since that sneezing panda video. Take soap, for example, a distinct zero on the cuteness scale. Squirt some into a Mason Jar, add some sparkles, throw in a bow, and Oh My God — you've just created the most thoughtful thing ever. Things I'm not responsible for: the hours spent on Pinterest you'll never get back, the glitter you won't be able to get out of your hair for months, the 94 percent chance of failure that comes from attempting a Pinterest craft.

8. Disposable Camera

A picture is worth a thousand words but luckily for you, a disposable camera only costs about \$8. If you're feeling particularly funky, go one step further and buy one from Urban Outfitters — they put totally relevant things like cats, party hats and thought bubbles right onto the picture. The disposable adds an element of surprise to that late-night selfie: you won't see how insane you look until you get it developed! Plus, it's a scientifically tested fact that an Instagram of a disposable picture gets 10 times more likes than an Instagram of a regular picture. #Nofilter needed for instant popularity. FourYes, they sell \$4 bottles of wine at Trader Joe's. If this is news to you, I'd

9. Trader Joe's "3 Buck Chuck"

suggest getting yourself to the nearest store as soon as you can, because this is a rather life-changing thing. The single best thing about this gift? It is not Franzia. Though I can't guarantee the quality of a wine bottle that costs less than four bucks, anything not named Franzia is automatically better in my book. Plus, putting a bow on a bottle of wine adds an air of assumed classiness and maturity to the gift giver — if someone appreciates such fine things in life like wine, they must have their life together, right?

10. Mix CD

Channel your inner romantic and give your significant other (or not) a mixed CD of your favorite music. It's the perfect combination of thoughtful, old school and light on the wallet — just make sure to stay away from all things Nickelback. And be careful in your song choice in general — because if the third word of the title of the fifth song in the mix has the word 'love' in it, it has the potential to spark the end-all be-all of a relationship, right?

The coolest courses in the coolest weather

January term offers new, improved classes, exclusive academic opportunities, intimate learning environment

Margaret Mason
Feature Writer

While most students leave Grounds after finals with neither the desire nor the emotional stability to return any time soon, those who choose to haul back early for the abbreviated January term reap the benefits of some of the most fascinating courses the University has to offer.

New on the curriculum this year are courses ranging from the University's medieval manuscripts to puppetry. These January courses are not only narrowly focused, but jam-packed into two rapid weeks. Here are some of 2014's most exciting offerings:

CLAS 3559: Medieval Manuscripts at U.Va.

A new course taught by Assoc. Classics Prof. Bradford Hays will serve as an introduction to manuscripts in the Special Collections Library.

"I wanted to be able to introduce students to real manuscripts in a small group setting," Hays said. "I hope [the students] will come away with an understanding of manuscripts as physical objects, but also as cultural objects, like how these medieval artifacts survived and winded up in an American library."

Unlike most courses, Hays' seminar will not merely show students images of the manuscripts on screen. "I think students will really enjoy the chance to work directly with actual medieval books: turn over the pages of a book of hours, leaf through a medieval bible, or identify a fragment of a lost manuscript," Hays said.

GETR 2770: Berlin and the Geography of Memory

A newly revived study abroad course takes a small group of students to Germany's capital, where German faculty member Mark Ilseman said he plans to immerse students in the history of the city.

"Germany and Berlin have gone through so many historical periods that have left traces in the city," Ilseman said. "By interacting with these traces that the different political periods have left in Berlin, we are going to get a very good overview of what has happened in German history."

In exploring architectural landmarks, memorials and cultural institutions like museums and theaters, the course aims to offer students an overview of German identity as it has developed throughout the years.

"Berlin is a city where you can walk down the street and basically pass through time," Ilseman said. "It's a city in which you travel through time by traveling through the city, and that is how the course is structured."

DRAM 4598: Art of Moving Creatures

Transformed from a semester-long course to a J-term one, this course, which focuses on design and construction methods used to animate puppets, is taught by Drama faculty member Steven Warner and Melissa Goldman from the Architecture School.

Warner said the course was inspired by the Stan Winston Arts Festival. "[The festival] gave students and instructors the opportunity to imagine and construct

large scale creature puppets with the assistance of Hollywood special effects creators," he said. "We look to further this work by provide a January term experience that will allow the students to focus on fabrication methods used to animate puppets in great detail."

Condensing a semester's worth of material into two weeks will mean the course is fast-paced and packed with workshops and seminars, Warner said.

"Being able to work with the students for much of the day will allow for better discussion and creativity than what can be offered during a regular hour-long class," Warner said. "We'll be able to open up our shops at Arts Grounds for the entire day and keep the students in a lab and class environment."

And the rest:

Other new courses offered this year include MDST 3559: Politics of Video Games, taught by Media Studies Prof. Bruce Williams and RELG 3559: Conscientious Social Change, taught by Gretchen Wallace and David Germano from the Religious Studies department.

Across a variety of departments, J-Term courses overall offer an intimate and intensive classroom experience that is generally not available outside of higher level seminars.

"In this kind of setting it is much easier to strike up less formal conversation about pertinent issues than it is in the classroom," Ilseman said. "There is much more time to focus on the individual interests of the students and not just on the instructors interests. It's been proven to be an extremely rewarding experience."



Courtesy Mike Ilseman



Courtesy Bradford Hays



Courtesy Steve Warner

January term professors, from top to bottom: Prof. Mark Ilseman, Prof. Bradford Hays and Prof. Steven Warner.

Spreading holiday cheer for all to hear

Kelly Seegers
Feature Writer

With finals just around the corner and the holiday season fast approaching, it's easy to get caught up in due dates, travel plans and Christmas shopping. In the midst of the madness, however, many students are also hard at work helping Charlottesville families enjoy their holiday seasons.

Circle K's Breakfast with Santa

Last Sunday, the University's chapter of Circle K, an internationally-recognized service organization, invited

children and their families from the Charlottesville community to come to the Student Activities Building and enjoy a free breakfast with Santa, giving underprivileged kids a fun opportunity to celebrate the holiday season.

"Their situations could be as bad as not having a warm breakfast for the holiday season," said third-year College student and club president Adela Mahmutovic. "So it's a really great way to have the whole family just forget about the economic situation and just have fun and enjoy the season without having to worry about how much it's going to cost and whether it will set them back."

At the event, there were six different craft tables and five

games for children to play, along with a table full of breakfast foods donated by places such as Panera, U.Va. Dining and Dunkin' Donuts. The step team from the Boys and Girls Club also performed, and of course, Santa made a special appearance.

"They probably never get to see Santa and never get to sit on Santa's lap and get a toy," said second-year College student Heidi Collins, the event coordinator. "Seeing their faces and just knowing that we are really making a difference to them and giving them the true spirit of the holidays is really rewarding."

Madison House's Holiday Sharing Program

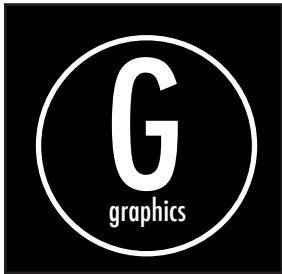
Throughout the fall semester, a team of student volunteers have worked through Madison House to ensure that more than 100 families in the Charlottesville area are provided with meals and presents during the holiday season. These students gather sponsors who make a financial commitment to buy at least \$30 in presents for each member of the family and enough food for three meals.

Students can also solicit support from their peers at the University to supplement a sponsor's gift.

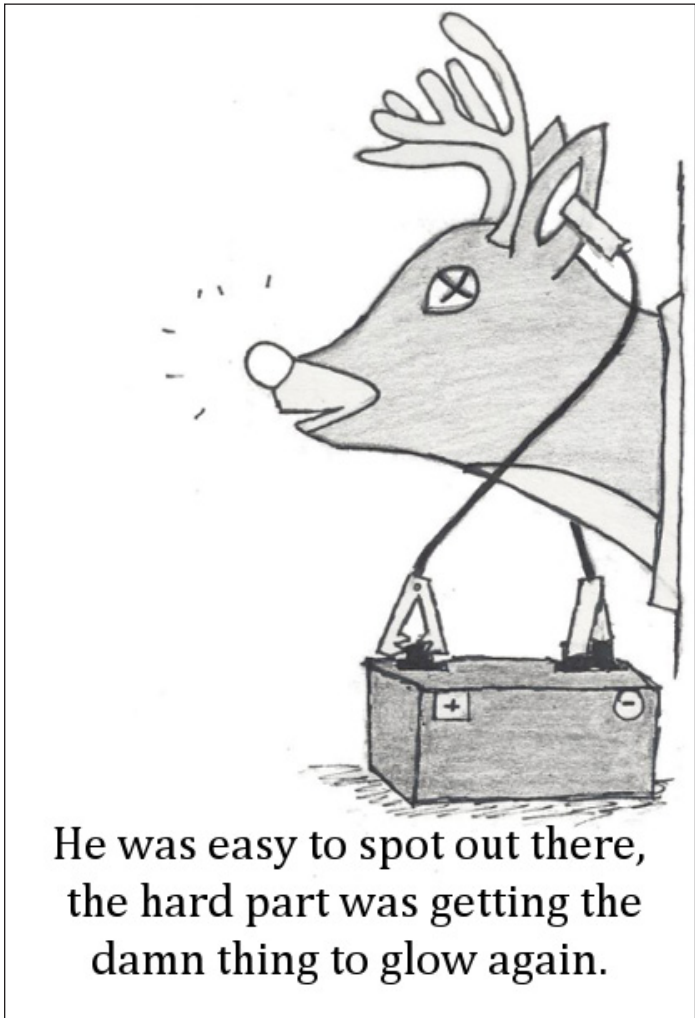
Recruiting CIOs, fraternities, sororities, families and individuals from the Charlottesville community to promise such a hefty contribution can prove

challenging, but Eleanor Muse, third-year College student and head of publicity for Madison House, said all the hard work pays off at the end on "Distribution Day."

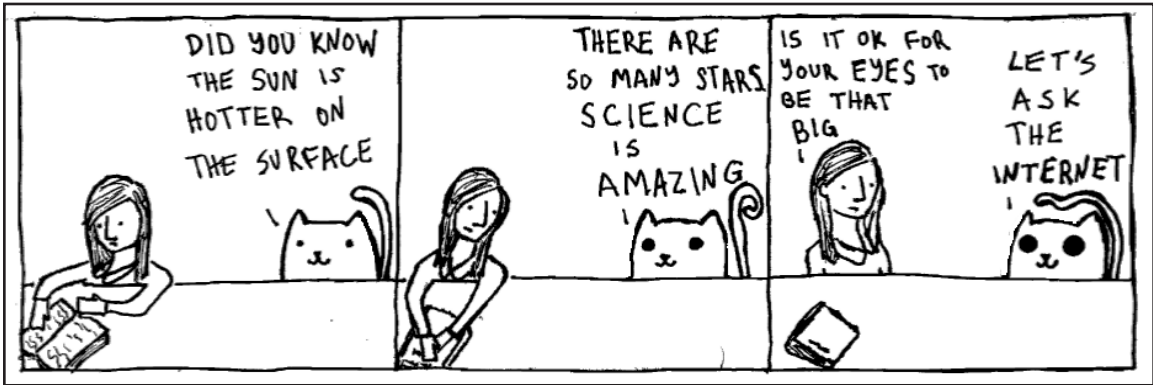
"All of the families come to Madison House and they bring their kids and we have cookie decorating and Santa," she said. "We give all the packages to the families, and that is just a really cool experience to see the impact that the program has made. ... It's easy to just bury your head and think about what you are doing but this is a cool way for organizations to get involved with the Charlottesville community and stay connected especially in the holiday season."



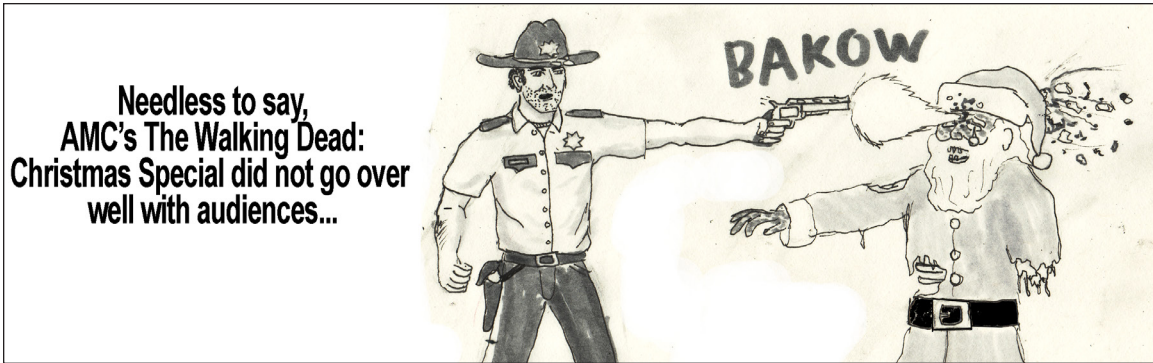
MOSTLY HARMLESS BY PETER SIMONSEN



NO PUN INTENDED BY CHARLOTTE RASKOVICH



A BUNCH OF BANANAS BY GARRET MADJIC & JACK WINTHROP



CHICKEN STRIP BY SAM NOVACK & SORCHA HARTMAN



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1031

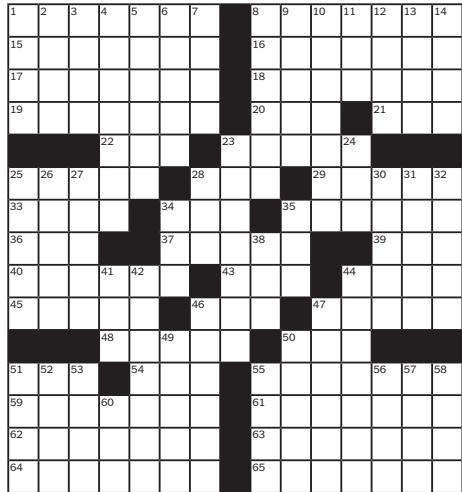
ACROSS

- 1 Universal Studios role of 1941
8 1-Across, in 23-Down
15 Not yet delivered
16 Thank you, in Tokyo
17 Universal Studios role of 1931
18 17-Across, in 23-Down
19 Gas grade
20 D.C. baseballer
21 Young socialite
22 Rapsallion
23 Clusterfist
25 Carnivorous fish
28 Through
29 "I beg to differ"
33 Shetland Islands sight
34 Unsettle
35 "St. Matthew Passion" composer, for short
36 Bit of chicken feed

- 37 What some hotel balconies overlook
39 Low reef
40 Like patent leather
43 Moon, e.g., to a poet
44 A, in Austria
45 Genesis wife
46 Genesis craft
47 Green touches?
48 Calls
50 Show age, in a way
51 U. of Miami's athletic org.
54 "Aladdin" monkey
55 Some bait
59 Universal Studios role of 1925
61 59-Across, in 23-Down
62 Starts gently
63 Comic strip infant
64 Universal Studios role of 1931
65 64-Across, in 23-Down

DOWN

- 1 Namby-pamby
2 ___ about (approximately)
3 Crescent shape
4 Second-largest city in Ark.
5 Period of focusing on oneself
6 "Your 15 minutes of fame ___!"
7 An I.Q. of about 100, e.g.
8 C. S. Lewis setting
9 Fields
10 Nickname for a 2012 presidential candidate
11 Ends of some close N.F.L. games: Abbr.
12 Secure, as a contract
13 Plains native
14 Development site
23 Things worth looking into?
24 Hold up
25 Trudges (through)
26 Furry folivore
27 Phoenix or Washington
28 Brewery fixture
30 Implied
31 Meager
32 "That's for sure!"
34 Crested bird
35 One-two part
38 Peeve
41 Glum



PUZZLE BY DAVID KWONG

- 42 Acupressure technique
44 Pacific Northwest city
46 Barnard grad, e.g.
47 Stickum
49 Intensely stirred up
50 Winter forecast
51 Made like
52 Scorch
53 La mía es la tuya, they say
55 Some online communications, briefly
56 Part of graduation attire
57 Start of 19 John Grisham novel titles
58 Place to be pampered
60 Asian electronics giant

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



One more thing!
Write jokes, draw comics
and send them to
graphics@cavalierdaily.com!

Hey man, do you ever sit around,
and think about, like, life and stuff?



1898 Corks & Curls

PUBLISHED IN 1989 CORKS & CURLS (CAPTION OURS)



SEXISM IN THE SCIENCES

National scandal illuminates persisting concerns of sexism's existence in the sciences



Courtesy Sarah Watson



Courtesy Sarah Watson

Jack P. Reynolds
Staff Writer

Danielle N. Lee, an accomplished biologist who writes for the popular online blog *Scientific American*, was recently called a “whore” in an email exchange which generated national, online debate about the persistence of sexism within the science professions.

The email was sent from the editor of a competing blog called *Biology Online*. Initially the disparaging editor was trying to gauge Lee’s interest in becoming a contributor to his blog, but when she declined his offer, the editor identified only by the screen name “Ofek,” responded, “Are you an urban scientist or an urban whore?”

Biology Online promptly fired the employee responsible and has since issued a public apology.

The story has provoked many bloggers to raise a crucial question about the status of gender discrimination in America: how prevalent is sexism within the sciences?

And what about at the University — can discrimination still be found hiding within scientific programs?

A national review of the growth of women’s participation in several science majors suggests sexism cannot be as prominent as it was in the past, at least not explicitly, as the proportion of women majoring in common science has increased in the last 20 years.

At the University alone, the

percentage of women majoring in medicine including bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees increased from 33 percent in 1992 to 44 percent in 2012. And while there were no female astronomy majors in 1992, approximately one-third of the astronomy majors in 2012 were women. There has also been a substantial increase in the number of women enrolled in biology, physics and chemistry.

Among Engineering fields, female enrollment numbers have also grown. According to Engineering School Dean James Aylor, within the undergraduate population there are 810 women in the Engineering School’s total population of 2589 undergraduate students, representing 31.3 percent.

“These numbers have been

growing,” he said. “When I became dean nine years ago, we had approximately 25 percent [female enrollment]. The national average is around 18 to 20 percent.”

The observed growth in the proportion of women in these majors may partially result from policies specifically designed to recruit more women. Aylor said organizations such as the University’s Society of Women Engineers attempt to draw more women to careers in engineering with marketing events, including weekends tailored to high school students in both the fall and spring semesters.

Although the percentage of women in science majors is clearly increasing, concerns of sexism in the sciences linger.

“I think part of the issue is

that when things are subtle, it isn’t possible to point

to one little thing and say it is sexism, but the integral over time of lots of little things

can certainly add up,” Astronomy Prof. Kelsey Johnson said. “I will say though, without question, that my department is extraordinarily supportive and family-friendly.”

Isabella Gee, a fourth-year Engineering student, said that though she has never felt directly disparaged for being a female engineer, people are still surprised to learn of her major, particularly people from outside the Engineering School.

“I think that’s just probably due to a lack of wide-scale visibility of female engineers, but it’s always just surprise, never any doubt of my capabilities.”



Courtesy Sarah Watson

The Society of Women in Engineering hosted 98 high school students at an event earlier this semester aimed at increasing the number of females interested in pursuing the sciences through higher education. At the event, participants designed and built HoverHoes, a type of hovercraft device as pictured top left.



Classic Christmas Fails

Hollywood seems set to take the Christmas out of Christmas films

Katie Cole
Arts & Entertainment Editor

For as long as I can remember, the Christmas season has been heralded by chocolate advent calendars, holiday tunes on the radio, a wreath on the door and, of course, a constant stream of Christmas classics on the television screen.

When I was young, I didn't seem to have a problem figuring out which movies best represented the Christmas season. It seemed obvious: "A Christmas Carol," "It's a Wonderful Life," "Frosty the Snowman," and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" encompass what the holiday season is all about: family, friendship and love. As years progressed, however, the definition of holiday film was expanding to include movies like "Love Actually" which really is just a love film set during Christmas — not that I'm complaining. "Love Actually" is one of my favorite films and has been added to my list of holiday favorites, as it, like the films listed above, covers all the central Christmas themes.

But, not every modern movie can

keep up with my Christmas classic requirements. In fact, fewer and fewer have made the cut in recent years. As I've gotten older, films released during the holiday season have become less and less about Christmas love and joy, and more about the material things that have defined the holiday.

I first noticed this trend in the late '90s and early 2000s when Disney started doing odd spin-off Christmas stories, especially the horrible ones starring Tim Allen — see: "The Santa Clause," "The Santa Clause 2," and "The Santa Clause 3." Producers may have cheapened the Christmas film, but at least they were on-theme and seemed to have no intention of making a "classic" film that could be added to my holiday movie stream.

Sadly, I think Christmas is no longer the focus of the Christmas movie season. No longer are the claymation films I held so dear as a child played on television. Instead, Harry Potter marathons flood ABC Family and everyone is talking about the latest Hunger Games film, "Catching Fire."

Christmas films do



not need to have "Christmas" in the title, feature a tree and presents or include Santa Claus. But they must actually feature Christmas — not winter, but Christmas. It seems the Christmas movie making gods have decided that the new Christmas "classics" they expect to play on my holiday film stream don't even need to stay on-theme. Apparently, any popular, high grossing movie that has some snow in it can now qualify as a Christmas classic.

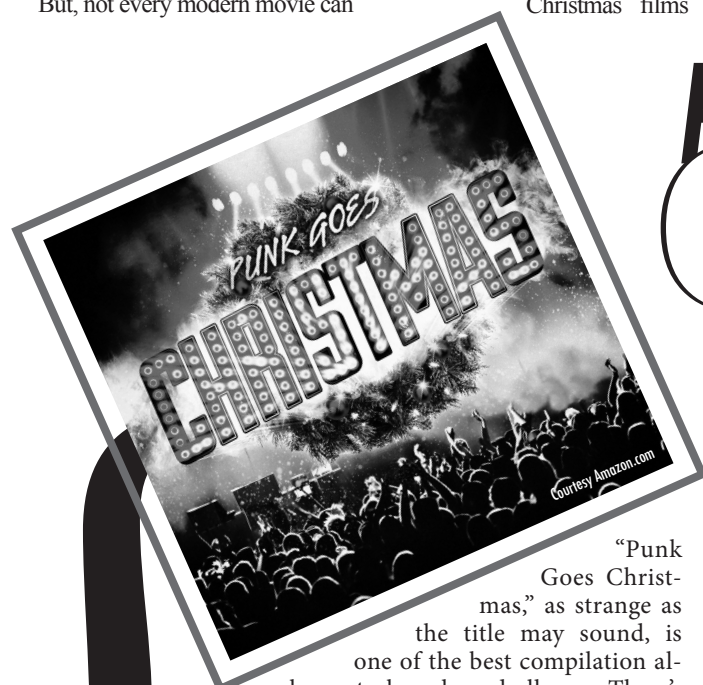
"Frozen" embodies this phenomenon perfectly. This fairy tale computer-animated flick is Disney's version of a Christmas cartoon —

and I'm not okay with it sitting next to "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer."

If you thought Hollywood couldn't mess with the Christmas season more, there have been talks of a sequel or even remaking "It's a Wonderful Life." I am fervently against making such a classic, well-done film modern. It would be like trying to remake "Breakfast at Tiffany's" or "The Sound of Music." No matter how much money or time goes into it, the film will look cheap.

My childhood holiday season was filled with heart-warming Christmas classics that were both on

my VHS and featured on prominent television channels. Seeing "Harry Potter" marathons and other movies tied into the holiday season due to their inclusion of winter weather saddens my soul. I want children to feel the same magic of Christmas that films like "The Little Drummer Boy" inspired in me. No, I didn't say just magic, I said Christmas magic and Hollywood producers would be smart to remember that. Follow the formula — well-known Christmas symbols rounded out by a message of family, friendship and love — and you'll find success. I'd be happy to add that film to my collection.



PUNKING OUT CHRISTMAS

Candace Carter
Senior Writer

core rock and screamo with occasional electronic influences, but this new Christmas track sounds much closer to Bruno Mars's "It Will Rain" than anything we've heard from Crown the Empire recently. New Found Glory adds their characteristic group-style singing into their "Nothing For Christmas," a sweet acoustic number that sets a slow-paced tone for the rest of the album. The Ready Set is overly cutesy as usual; their vocals are layered and as heavily autotuned as their instrumentation in "I Don't Wanna Spend Another Christmas Without You." It's catchy, but also slightly annoying — definitely the lowest point in the track listing.

Both William Beckett's "Do You Hear What I Hear?" and All Time Low's "Fool's Holiday" are the album's gems; the vocals are irresistibly lovely and the rhythms are exciting and fresh. And one band was even able to utilize a screaming technique while keeping the mood relatively joyous: "Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays" by Issues is strangely impressive in its fusion of melodic finesse and hardcore vocals and instrumentation.

Whether the tone is sad, like in the Real Friends song "I Had a Heart" about miss-

ing loved ones, or the artists are cheerfully crooning about what a wonderful Christmas they're having, like The Ready Set, all the songs are fantastic. Even the few songs about topics other than love — like Man Overboard singing about those less fortunate in "Father Christmas" — rock out in a wonderfully Christmas-time style.

"Punk Goes Christmas" could have very easily flopped with its seemingly contrasting elements, but it turned out quite successful and well done. I'll be listening to this one for years to come.

Stand out tracks:
"Nothing For Christmas," New Found Glory
"Do You Hear What I Hear?" William Beckett
"All I Can Give You," Jason Lancaster
"Fool's Holiday," All Time Low

"Punk Goes Christmas," as strange as the title may sound, is one of the best compilation albums to be released all year. There's something endearing about a bunch of tattooed, angry, punk rockers showing a softer side and reveling in the Christmas spirit. Some tracks, like "Fool's Holiday" by All Time Low, were written specifically for the occasion, while others, like William Beckett's rendition of "Do You Hear What I Hear?" are covers of traditional Christmas songs we know and love. Original and classic alike, these songs are orchestrated with the merry instruments one expects to hear come early December, but most of the artists also manage to incorporate their own trademarks and styles into their pieces.

One notable exception is Crown the Empire's "There Will Be No Christmas." The group has been increasingly successful in the past couple years mixing hard-

NOT JUST FOR TEENS...

LATEST DISNEY CHANNEL ORIGINAL MOVIE OFFERS AMPLE DUMB FUN

Conor Sheehy
Arts & Entertainment Editor

In an ideal world, there would be no such thing as a “guilty pleasure.” We should be able to pop in a Demi Lovato album, DVR the latest episode of “Pretty Little Liars” and marvel at Sandra Bullock’s performance in “All About Steve” without so much as an ounce of shame. After all, who cares what the critics and culture snobs say? I’ll take “She’s the Man” instead of “An Inconvenient Truth” anyday.

Unfortunately, we do not live in an ideal world, and even those of us who pretend to be film or music critics cannot escape social stigma and judgment when we plunge into the depths of bargain DVD racks and Netflix Instant Queues for a quick fix of mindless fun. I was forced to confront this sad reality as I, a 22-year-old male, sat down with my two younger sisters to take in “Teen Beach Movie,” the latest Disney Channel Original Movie — or “DCOM,” as the teenage in-crowd likes to say. Needless to say, I expected to hate the film, or at least to write it off as a cliché-ridden mess of autotuned

vocal performances and clean-cut teenage up-and-comers. I was wrong — or, at least, partially wrong.

“Teen Beach Movie” tells the tale of Brady (Ross Lynch) and McKenzie (Maia Mitchell), two star-crossed teens with a passion for surfing and shenanigans. As “Mack” prepares to be whisked off to prep school to make her late mother proud and to please her uptight aunt, Brady mourns the impending loss of his summer fling. In an unpredictable twist of fate, however, a massive tidal wave sends the unsuspecting youngsters into the world of “Wet Side Story,” a 1960s-era musical movie in which a “Romeo and Juliet”-esque love story emerges amid a seemingly innocuous “gang-war” between bikers and surfers.

Naturally, Brady’s and Mack’s arrival shakes up the social scene



and, at least for a time, prevents shallow surfer Tanner (Garrett Clayton), the Romeo figure, from falling for his Juliet, biker-girl Lela (Grace Phipps). From there, friendships are challenged, love is lost and found, and family movie tropes abound. And somehow, it all kind of works.

To be fair, when “Teen Beach Movie” tries to be smart, it fails miserably. One subplot, for instance, finds the plucky Mack attempting to instill feminist ideals

and progressive values in the relatively old-fashioned Lela and the rest of her cohort. With lines like “Girls can do anything boys can do,” this through-line proves more nauseating than empowering, despite strong performances by Mitchell and Phipps, who sing, dance and act with impressive energy and humor.

Across the board, the cast and songs save this film from falling overboard.

Lynch and Mitchell lack on-screen chemistry, and Clayton and Phipps have little or nothing to work with when it comes to character depth and development, but all four leads ooze charisma, and the supporting ensemble proves effective at mugging for the camera.

As far as musical numbers go, “Teen Beach Movie” packs a surprising punch. From belty doo-wop ballads to beach-front choral numbers, each song is more catchy

and upbeat than the last. As long as you have a high tolerance for cheese and camp, the soundtrack will remain ingrained in your mind for days, even as you attempt to write marathon-length term papers and study for final exams. If only it were socially acceptable to do so, I would likely walk around Grounds belting out “Meant to Be,” “Can’t Stop Singing” and “Falling for Ya” for weeks.

Too often, film-makers feel the need to make powerful statements and to force viewers to think about some greater social problem. But sometimes I want to turn on the tube and turn my brain off for 90 minutes, and Disney Channel has never failed in helping me to do so.

“Teen Beach Movie” is uninventive, but it is also undeniably fun. With intriguing choreography, terrific songs, chuckle-worthy in-jokes, an easily digestible storyline, and, perhaps most importantly, an agreeably nice-looking and clean-cut cast, this over-the-top production somehow managed to blow me away, even as it drained my brain cells. Having seen more DCOMs than I care to admit, I can honestly say that this one is among the best.

MCCONAUGHEY’S DEEP DALLAS PERFORMANCE

HIDDEN TALENT ABOUNDS IN REAL-LIFE NARRATIVE

Jamie Shalvey
Associate Editor

Based on the true story of Ron Woodroof’s efforts to distribute medication to treat AIDS in the 1980s, the latest Matthew McConaughey film “Dallas Buyers Club” plays out with the vivacity that the story calls for.

McConaughey plays Woodroof, an electrician living in a small town in Texas. He lives a lazy, drug-filled life, earning extra money by betting at the rodeo and otherwise trying to woo women back to his trailer. After an accident puts him in the hospital, he finds out he has AIDS and only 30 days to live.

Homophobic, Woodroof refuses to believe the diagnosis at first. But after some research, he realizes the gravity of the situation and seeks medical care. He is prescribed AZT,

the only medication approved by the FDA. After the medication almost kills him, he travels to Mexico to pick up a safer medication that treats the disease, but it is not allowed in the United States. Out of his frustration, Woodroof forms the Dallas Buyers Club, where he gathers AIDS medication from around the world and distributes it to AIDS patients in the Dallas area.

Woodroof’s diagnosis marks a turning point in his life, allowing him to progress past his carefree existence riddled with easily replaceable and largely meaningless belongings and friendships. His AIDS diagnosis might be what’s killing

his body, but it very well may have saved his soul.

A touching mark of his transformation comes in his approach to the gay community, as his interactions with other people suffering from the disease help him to become more open-minded. He even becomes business partners with a man named Rayon (Jared Leto), who dresses in drag.

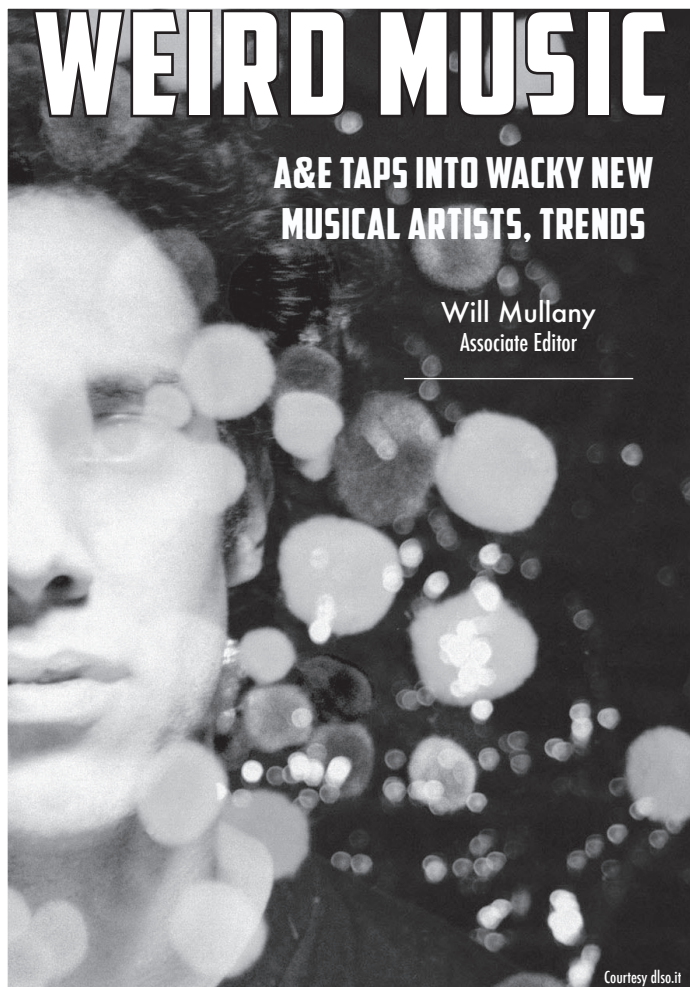
The true story behind the movie gives the plot an impactful punch. With an appropriate setting, cinematographers had a chance to really shine in this film. McConaughey, however, truly makes the whole movie come together. An already

fit person, he even dropped more than 40 pounds for the role to make a believable AIDS-stricken man. He goes above and beyond for this role, greatly exceeding any expectations generated by his previous light-hearted performances in “Ghosts of Girlfriends Past” and “How to Lose a Guy in Ten Days.”

McConaughey’s performance was complemented by smooth writing and skilled cinematography, ensuring the film moved with graceful depth, rather than standing as a static historic drama.

“Dallas Buyers Club” is as an informative, intriguing take on the AIDS epidemic in the ‘80s, the homophobia surrounding it and the steps taken to find treatment. But it also embodies what a good movie should be — interesting and applicable to the point where I left the theater feeling touched and changed.





Remember the days when musicians used to keep to themselves and genre-lines were always clear cut? Yeah, me neither, but it seems like these days especially, genres, labels and categories in contemporary music are in their most nebulous state; previously segregated styles are being mixed like never before. Although weird fusions and sub-genres have always existed, these niches are producing some of the most interesting music around. Let's take a look at a few good releases these scenes have thrown out there in the past few months.

The UK-based bass music scene, always a fertile breeding ground for unusual artists, has recently pushed many a newborn release out of the proverbial womb. Experimental super-producer Kieran Hebden, known on stage as Four Tet, just dropped the aptly titled "Beautiful Rewind," an appreciative nod to the 90s era of UK rave culture. The project is a bit of a departure from the chilled-out, hip-hop tinged sound compositions of his previous releases, but don't run screaming yet; from the skittering garage beats of "Kool FM," to the muggy Garage beats of "Gong," Hebden makes old sounds work in unlikely new ways.

Another nostalgic review of early UK dance music was released by Paul Woolford under the moniker Special Request. The album, "Soul Music," is constructed using the now-iconic sounds of drum and bass, UK Garage and archaic techno. Striking a perfect emotional chord, Woolford is careful not to get too misty-eyed in his reminiscence and avoids any attempt to fix what was never broken. Instead, the album's chief goal, it seems, is to recreate the exciting head-space of a by-gone era.

Craving something of a more exotic origin? Pick up Syrian singer Omar Souleyman's new album "Wenu

Wenu." Souleyman has been performing at weddings in Syria for around 20 years now, but he was only recently yanked into the international spotlight when Icelandic artist Björk got a hold of a recording and asked for a collaboration. Since then, the unlikely hero has been steadily gaining a following, recently culminating in the singer's official debut, produced by Four Tet himself. I'm not going to promise it won't be weird, because, for most, it probably will be. Though danceable, many of the tracks may be off-putting in their accompaniment — a strange mix of traditional Arabic instrumentation and cheap '80s drum machines and synths. Still, "Wenu Wenu" is an unrivaled, if unconventional, ride and is well worth a chance.

What about this side of the pond? Well, a Chicago artist by the name of DJ Rashad has had the Internet abuzz in the past year and he recently released a stellar debut, "Double Cup." Rashad has his origins in the Chicago scene of Footwork, a local style of music and dance that features frenetic syncopated percussion, looped and chopped samples, and a powerful low end, all at insane speeds of 140-170 BPM. Though Rashad's album relies heavily on this framework, tracks like "Feelin'," where the chopped soul samples are finally given some space to breathe, and "Acid Bit," which employs a bass-line typical of mid-'80s Chicago house, show that Rashad isn't afraid to break down some conventions to move his craft forward. Despite its references to the past, "Double Cup" feels more like a playlist for an urban house party in some super technologically advanced future civilization.

Jump on these budding bandwagons now, and enjoy the ability to say you knew these artists before they were cool.

WHITE FLAG

Black Flag's legacy cannot save group's latest effort

ALBUM HIGHLIGHTS:

"THE CHASE"

"MY HEART'S PUMPING"

"IT'S NOT MY TIME TO GO-GO"

This seems to have been the year of the comeback artist. Justin Timberlake dabbled in musical ophthalmology with his two-part "20/20 Experience," Robin Thicke resurrected himself as a misogynistic surveyor of "Blurred Lines" and Fall Out Boy failed to "Save Rock and Roll," but delivered one of the more impressive dance-pop records in the past 12 months.

A less successful permutation of the trend has crept into the punk rock scene as well, as legends don't want their status as respected veterans to become a slow fade into the background. Bad Religion dropped the lukewarm "True North" last year and assembled a package of half-digested Christmas songs this holiday season. The Misfits and Descendents have reformed with hodgepodge versions of their original lineups to head modest touring circuits.

The latest offender is the highly-regarded Black Flag, who is back with their first studio album since "In My Head" from 1985.

The record titled "What The..." adequately describes its

contents. Its whopping 22 tracks are textbook Black Flag, but it's wrinkly around the edges for the entirety of its 45-minute running time.

Whether a reference to vocalist Ron Reyes' old age or not, opener "My Heart's Pumping" reprises the snarl he sported on his last outing with the group, 1980s misfiring "Jealous Again." Tracks like "Down in the Dirt" and "Go Away" seem to answer this angst-riddled attack with jolts of energy so similar, however, that the original song loses its driving force. Sure, it's punk music and derivative output is easy to find, but when the album has offerings like "This Is Hell," which flirts with Jane's Addiction's best jungle drums and schizophrenic guitars, there's plenty left to be desired.

"What The..." isn't without its high water marks though. The rollicking "It's Not My Time to Go-Go" is 90 seconds of bass-heavy fun, and lead single "The Chase," with guitar lines revamped from earlier glories and crisp drums, makes up for more heinous cuts.

Recall everyone in this band is older than 50, so lyrical themes that shove a middle finger toward The Establishment seem tired and inconsistent. "Lies," with its embarrassingly nu metal drudge, promises Reyes "lives with [his] anxiety and [his] angst" against unjust power. Fair enough. When he uses this anger on the "Outside" to slop down a bastardization of the couch potato in Green Day's "Longview," you can't help but stifle a laugh. To quote one of "What The..." many straightforward track monikers, "You Gotta Be Joking," Black Flag 2K13.

All the elements are present for a solid Black Flag record: it's stacked with frenetic instrumentals, vocals that barrel through speakers with full force and an agenda that hasn't aged a day. But though Black Flag still has all the right ingredients to dish out something memorable, the harsh truth is they don't serve the masterpiece I hoped for. Sure, punk might not be dead, but it would've been better if these punks stayed buried behind their former selves.

James Cassar
Associate Editor

Courtesy mthive.com

METZINGER | Cavs endure abysmal night, embarrassing shooting

Continued from page 11

guard-sufficient to explain.

Indeed, the game was an anomaly. Harris and company can connect on layups and will during the next few months. Hess will not work every Virginia game. And the Cavaliers, which had led the nation in limiting opponents' rebounds and defensive rebounding percentage entering Wednesday night, will perform more soundly on the glass after getting outrebounded 40-34 and yielding 12 offensive boards to the gargantuan, Frank Kaminsky-led Wisconsin frontline. Kaminsky snagged 12 rebounds — six on the offensive glass — in large part simply by virtue of being a seven-foot colossus.

But even though we can and should acknowledge Wednesday night's game will ultimately prove uncharacteristic of Virginia's quality as a team, the performance raised some concerns about the Cavaliers' chances to approach the lofty pre-season expectations heaped upon them.

Namely, it was the manner in which the players responded to their abnormally rotten luck, especially during a fatal stretch spanning

the end of the first and beginning of second halves, which portends tournament-ostracizing doom if not addressed.

If not ideal, Virginia's start to the game at least conformed to the formula requisite for defeating a heady Bo Ryan-coached team. After the first 6:52, the Cavaliers led 13-11 on 6-of-10 shooting and had forced Wisconsin into three turnovers and a series of harried, contested jumpers near the end of the shot-clock. It was quintessential Tony Bennett basketball, with the defense's kinetic energy smothering the opponent and helping facilitate just enough offense to keep Virginia in control.

Virginia shot 2-of-17 for the remaining 13:08 of the half to let the Badgers overcome a slew of air-balls and squirm their way to a five-point cushion. Even then, however, the Virginia defense remained sturdy enough to suggest that a second half, crowd-induced surge of the sort Bennett's squad patented last year could vault the Cavaliers back into control.

"I thought we lost our composure a little bit," Bennett said of what ensued. "We had some opportunities to finish, and we didn't."

Missed 3-pointer, turnover, missed layup, turnover, missed

fade-away jumper, missed layup, made free throw, two missed layups, missed 3-pointer, turnover, missed 3-pointer. By themselves, the outcomes of the Cavaliers' first 11 offensive possessions of the second half read like Adam Morrison's career box score.

Yet the words alone hardly do justice the comic ineptitude on display in those first nine minutes in the second half. As the solid opportunities Wisconsin's defense consistently yielded to them recoiled tauntingly from the lid on the rim, the Cavaliers began to lose their grip of the elements of the game they were controlling before.

By the time sophomore center Mike Tobey hit a baby quasi-hook to finally record Virginia's first field goal at the 11:08 mark, Wisconsin had stretched the lead to 34-23. In an otherwise superb performance, the Virginia defense had

relented just enough during the offense's stretch of futility for the Badgers to blow the game wide open.

Eleven spirited but uneven minutes later, the Cavaliers had finished the second half on 3-of-20 shooting with no player reaching double digits for the game. Tobey's 3-of-7 output crowned him Virginia's most accurate shooter Wednesday night, freshman guard London Perrantes' eight points the team's high scorer.

The box score will portray this game as a holistically Hindenburg-esque display from Virginia, in which shooting deficiencies scuppered any chance of hanging with a more ballyhooed and talented team.

But the Cavaliers really forfeited this game in those maddening first

nine or so minutes of the second period. Not only did their luck bottom out, but they let the misfortune cascade into turnovers, missed opportunities, sulky facial expressions and uncharacteristic defensive lapses.

Instead of claiming a grueling victory or at least a valiant defeat against a formidable foe, Virginia suffered a humiliating double-digit loss to a Wisconsin team that missed the rim more often than American Airlines misses target arrival times.

"It happens," Mitchell said. "Guys have off nights."

He's right. It happens, sometimes, as Forrest Gump once remarked.

Laugh, it's cheap medicine

SPOTLIGHT



This week's spotlight goes to Joseph Torp, president of U.Va's Kids Acting Out (KAO). Kids Acting Out works after school with students from Venable Elementary, helping them work together in groups to prepare a short skit. Each group presents their skit at the end

of the year. "KAO has meant the world to me; every Friday I look forward to working with these children. They are so full of energy, imagination, and boundless spirit that it is hard not to have a blast during our weekly meetings," said Torp. Moving forward Torp has plans to grow KAO and the activities it does with its students. Currently, the executive board is weighing potentially bringing in members of U.Va's various acting groups to speak to the kids. The goal to share a love for acting; however, even more generally, Torp just wants students, both at Venable and at U.Va to get excited about service. "It is incredibly easy to get involved in the greater Charlottesville community (outside of Grounds)," said Torp. "Volunteer opportunities abound for anyone interested in theaters, children, sustainable food, animals, or pretty much any other interest that students may have. Oftentimes, all you need to do is ask!"

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
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The 15th Annual
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Friday, December 6, 2013
9:30 am - 3:30 pm
Alumni Hall
University of Virginia

American Democracy Conference Agenda

- 8:45 am - Doors open
- 9:15 - Opening Remarks
- 9:30 - **Panel 1: Virginia Governors Race**
Moderator: Jeff Schapiro
- 11:00 - **Panel 2: 2014 Mid Term**
Moderator: Professor Larry J. Sabato
- 12:15 - Lunch
- 2:00 - **Panel 3: Future of the American Electorate**
Moderator: Kyle Kondik

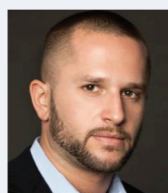
Join Professor Larry Sabato and the UVA Center for Politics to discuss the 2013 elections & beyond.

This event is FREE and open to the public with registration required at:

<http://forms.hoosonline.virginia.edu/cfpadc>

Select panelists include:

Josh Barro - Editor, Business Insider
Christina Bellantoni - Editor, PBS News Hour
Carl Cannon - Washington Bureau Chief, Real Clear Politics
Dahlia Lithwick - Journalist, Slate.com
Jeff Schapiro - Reporter, Richmond Times Dispatch



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